



12 Food

Meatless wonders



11 Weekend
Superman to the rescue



20 Sports

'Spice boy' says he's sorry

INDEX

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Business | 15 |
| Food | 12 |
| Movies, TV, Crossword | 19 |
| Opinion | 10 |
| Weekender | 11 |
| Sports | 20 |

AGENDA

President Jekyll & Ezer Hyde

A few weeks ago, on the eve of one of Dennis Ross's arrivals during his shuttles in the region, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called President Ezer Weizman and asked if he would meet with the American peace team to "soften them up a bit" before the official talks began. Netanyahu wanted to get a preview of what they were thinking.

The Weizman-Ross meeting took place at 10 p.m., at the Sde Dov Airport, not long after the Americans had landed.

After the hour-long meeting, Beit Hanassi director-general Arye Shumer called the prime minister's home in Jerusalem so that his boss could report on the meeting. The voice on the other end of the line said: "Bibi's asleep." Weizman turned red. "Why did he send me if he isn't even interested in what was discussed?" he asked.

The two did meet soon afterwards, Weizman was pacified, and later said he was convinced there had been some progress and the redeployment would take place. A few days later, it turned out, he was to be disappointed yet again.

See AGENDA, Page 6

NASA chief: Israel may join space station

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

Israel could one day join in the international space-station program being developed by a 16-nation group, each of which has made "significant investments," NASA chief administrator Daniel Goldin said yesterday.

"This is for the future. This is a decision that Israel will have to make," Goldin told a Tel Aviv conference titled "Air Power - A Look to the Future."

"The United States will be working with other countries in joint scientific experiments. It is in the interest of the US government, in partnership with Israel or other countries. We can and will fly experiments and personnel from other countries to the international space station," Goldin said.

He predicted that technologies developed in the space program would rewrite the chemistry, physics, and biology textbooks. Goldin also predicted that aircraft would be produced in the next 25 years that would reduce the flight time between Israel and the US to just two hours.

One of the two Israel Air Force pilots undergoing astronaut training in the US will be ready to join a shuttle crew in about a year, Goldin noted. Col. Ilan Ramon, a former F-16 squadron commander, and his backup, Lt.-Col. Yitzhak Mayo, a navigator involved in test flights, began training last month.

"They must become familiar with all of our procedures and this will take on the order of a year. The Israelis who will be in space will be required to perform science," Goldin said. "We don't carry passengers any more. They must be scientists."



President Ezer Weizman (right) and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greet one another at the Knesset yesterday, as Sara Netanyahu looks on.

An uneasy truce

President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu both blinked yesterday, after standing eyeball to eyeball and glaring at each other like two belligerent schoolboys for two long days.

Having bloodied each other's noses in full public view, the two disputants came to the conclusion that neither could knock the other one down.

The best thing to do, under the circumstances, would be to huddle and come out - if not exactly as bosom buddies - at least not swinging.

Which is exactly what happened at the 70-minute meeting between them yesterday.

In the laconic statement the two men issued jointly through their spokesmen, neither said they

accepted the other's view, were wrong, or - perish the thought - sorry.

They merely said that in the future they will deal with the issues between them privately, not in center ring, surrounded by a domestic and international audience thirsting for blood.

When Netanyahu met last week with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak to clear the air after their nasty exchange in the cabinet earlier in the month, a joint statement was issued stating that the two met in a cordial atmosphere, and that "all disagreements between them were settled in the conversation."

No such luck yesterday. No talk about cordial atmospheres, nor about settling disputes. Rather, the two men agreed, "for the good of the country," that "every issue will be examined and clarified between them, and not in public."

Both Weizman and Netanyahu have too much to lose by carrying on this dispute any further in public. The last thing Netanyahu needs right now, with the coalition, opposition, Palestinians, and leaders of the Arab world all breathing down his neck, is a dogfight with the president. He

has exactly nothing to gain from it.

A protracted war of words with Weizman would inevitably weaken him both domestically and internationally.

And Weizman, for his part, stands to lose the trust of half the country who disagree with his assessment of Netanyahu, and see him as having blatantly overstepped his presidential bounds. The trust and faith of the people is the only hard currency a president has. If he squanders that currency, he is left with nothing but an impressive title, and a nice house.

Weizman wants more, and Netanyahu doesn't want trouble - the reason they agreed to disagree only in private.

At least for now.

ANALYSIS

US calls on Swiss to reach 'closure' over Nazi gold

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - The US State Department yesterday called on the Swiss government to be "proactive" and to bring "closure" to revelations about its trading with the Nazis in looted gold during World War II.

At the same time, it also sought to avert local sanctions against Swiss commercial banks.

"I think it is time for the US government not to be telling the Swiss government what to do," US Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstadt said in a conference call with reporters before calling public finance officials, who were meeting in New York to consider sanctions against Swiss commercial banks.

"It is time for the Swiss government to say how it is going to bring this to closure," he said. "The Bergier Commission itself was very direct and very pointed in terms of what the Swiss National Bank knew as early as 1942, namely that they were dealing with looted gold," he said.

The Bergier Commission is an independent panel of international historians that was convened by Bern to assess Switzerland's wartime behavior.

Eizenstadt said he had spoken with Swiss Foreign Minister

Flavio Cotti. He did not reveal details, but made it clear he expects Bern to take some action on the Bergier findings.

"The important thing now is for the Swiss government to be proactive to help bring this to closure," he said.

The finance officers, led by New York City Controller Alan Hevesi, have threatened to lift a moratorium on sanctions against the major Swiss commercial banks to compel a settlement of class-action lawsuits that accused the banks of hoarding Jewish war-era assets.

A decision on sanctions was due later yesterday.

The banks, Jewish organizations and survivors' lawyers have not been able to reach a settlement, despite more than a dozen separate meetings. The stumbling block is financial, said Eizenstadt, who has served as the mediator. Eizenstadt said he had reminded Jewish groups that the litigation involves private banks and was not against the government of Switzerland nor against the Swiss National Bank, although it was the SNB that converted the bulk of the Nazi looted gold during the war.

A separate suit was filed against the SNB in an American federal court earlier this week.

See GOLD, Page 2

Hillary Clinton, Albright visit Shanghai synagogue Restored building 'good example of respect for religious differences'

By CAROL GIACOMO

SHANGHAI (Reuters) - US First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright yesterday visited a restored synagogue in Shanghai and hailed it as an example of a new respect in China for religious differences.

The Ohel Rachel Synagogue, renovated as testimony to Shanghai's once thriving Jewish community during the early part of this century, is an ivy-covered symbol of the contradictions change is bringing to China.

Although the Shanghai city government paid the equivalent of \$70,000 for the renovation, Judaism is not an officially recognized religion in China.

There are only a handful of Chinese Jews, most of them descendants of the ancient Kaifeng community in central China.

Almost all the Jews in Shanghai are expatriates.

"For this to be restored is a very good example of respect for religious differences and appreciation of the importance of faith in one's life, so I'm delighted I could come and see this," Hillary Clinton told reporters, with Shanghai Mayor Xu Kuangdi at her side.

Albright, whose parents were Jewish, was optimistic China was going in the right direction. Restoration was "a sign of the changes that are taking place here," she said.

US President Bill Clinton has made freedom of expression a theme of his nine-day state visit to China.

Seventeen picture boards telling the story of Shanghai's Jewish community paint a dramatic contrast between now and 1920, when the synagogue was founded.

Jewish merchants and traders came to Shanghai from Iraq via India throughout the 1800s.

The city was in its heyday between the world wars when Sephardic Jews of fabulous wealth - Sir Victor Sassoon, the Ezra, Kadoorie and Hardoon families - built some of the most sumptuous palaces east of Suez.

During World War II the city's tenements were crammed with Jews fleeing Nazi Germany.

The Jewish community at its height numbered about 24,000 and there were eight to 10 synagogues.

But in 1949, when the communists came to power, they seized the synagogues and outlawed worship.

In recent years, religious expression has been permitted, but only Buddhism, Taoism, Catholicism, Protestantism and Islam are officially recognized.

Rabbi Arthur Schneier of New York City, one of three US religious leaders appointed by Clinton to press the case for religious freedom in China, visited the synagogue last February and asked Xu to designate the building a historical site and open it to the public.

Weizman, PM call off public feud

By HERB KEMON and MICHAEL YUDILMAN

President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu are to begin a series of discussions next week, as part of a new agreement to air their peace-process dispute behind closed doors, and not in front of the media.

The two met at Beit Hanassi yesterday morning for some 70 minutes. The meeting was organized following interviews Netanyahu gave Tuesday night charging that Weizman was siding with Arab leaders and not acting in a "statesmanlike" manner.

"President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu talked and clarified their positions to each other," Weizman's bureau chief, Arye Shumer, said after the meeting, reading from a joint statement. "Both men agreed that, for the good of the country, every issue will be examined and clarified between them, and not in public."

The terms were honored yesterday, as both men refused to comment on their strained relations. In their meeting, however, Netanyahu reportedly took the president to task for launching a personal attack on him, with Weizman countering that he was just saying what was on his mind.

Weizman reportedly told Netanyahu that he feels the prime minister used him in meetings with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, and at times made him look like a liar.

When Netanyahu told Weizman he will brief the president on negotiations with the Palestinians, Weizman reportedly shot back that the prime minister does not provide truthful briefings.

The meeting was brokered by a number of intermediaries after Weizman, reportedly furious at Netanyahu's counter-attacks on the two nightly news programs, called a press conference for yesterday morning in which he was expected to further attack the prime minister.

The meeting between the two leaders was intended to forestall Weizman's press conference, which would only have made matters much worse, said coalition chairman MK Meir Sheetrit (Likud), who helped organize it.

Netanyahu was accompanied to the meeting by his spokesman, Shai Bazak, and Uri Elizur, director of the prime minister's bureau.

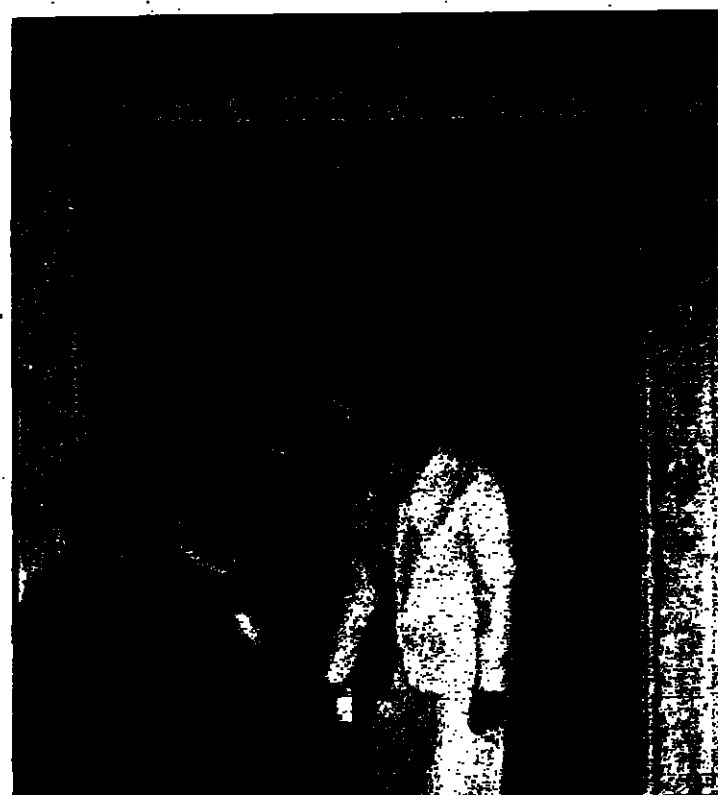
Shortly after the meeting, however, Weizman and Netanyahu met again briefly at the Knesset, where they shook hands and exchanged pleasantries.

Sheetrit said the crisis was over and the president and prime minister would resume working together. "I'm glad they met and the tense, painful relationship has reached an end. There was no justification for it to begin with," Sheetrit said.

However, the Weizman-Netanyahu meeting left others feeling nothing had been achieved. Labor Party leader MK Ehud Barak, who spoke to Weizman on the telephone after the meeting, said "the meeting didn't solve any problem." Meretz Party leader MK Yossi Sarid said Weizman's meeting with Netanyahu was not enough to solve the problem, because neither man changed his opinion of the other. "Weizman still has no confidence in the prime minister and Netanyahu still thinks the president of the state is a collaborator of Arafat." I assume there'll be a lull for a while, until the next attacks," Sarid said.

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, who has announced his candidacy for prime minister, said the relationship between Netanyahu and Weizman is similar to Netanyahu's relations with President Bill Clinton, King Hussein, Mubarak, French President Jacques Chirac, and British Prime Minister Tony Blair.

See FEUD, Page 2



US First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visit the newly restored Ohel Rachel Synagogue in Shanghai yesterday.

The synagogue is not being used as a place of worship pending official permission. Three months ago, the building,

used as warehouse by the Education Commission, was still a jumble of boxes and junk, but yesterday it was spick and span.



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NEWS

in brief

Egypt, Jordan, Turkey invited to naval exercise

Israel has invited Egypt, Jordan and Turkey to participate in joint naval maneuvers being held with the US and Turkish navies, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said during a visit to Haifa yesterday. Mordechai said that the maneuvers would be a repeat of the search and rescue exercise Israel, Turkey and the United States held last January.

Mordechai said that a second maneuver was agreed upon with his US counterpart Secretary of Defense William Cohen. "I will very much delighted if the Turks will participate and play an integral part in the exercise," Mordechai said. "And I would be glad if other navies in the region sent representatives and joined in building a joint capability to protect the defense of the region against misunderstandings."

Arieh O'Sullivan

Search for Dakar to resume

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said yesterday that searches would resume this summer for the *Dakar* submarine which went missing in 1968 with all 69 hands on board. The searches would be focused along the Egyptian coast and the route the submarine was supposed to have taken on its maiden voyage from England. The US Navy research submarine NR-1, which has helped search for the *Dakar* in the past.

Arieh O'Sullivan

Boeing to improve F-15I for next IAF purchase

Boeing Corp. executives said yesterday they are prepared to extend the range of the F-15I and increase its weapons payload for the IAF's next batch of US fighter aircraft. The decision might increase the cost of the F-15I, executives said, but would add significant improvements in the strike fighter. Israel has already ordered 25 F-15Is, delivery of which will be completed at the end of the year.

Mike Sears, president of McDonnell Aircraft & Missile Systems, said the improvements being discussed for the new F-15I offer include increased range and payload. The payload would be increased by a structure redesign that would make the 600 gallon conformal fuel tank to make room for more weapons.

Steve Rodan

UN continues debate on Jerusalem expansion

The UN Security Council continued its debate yesterday on a resolution that would condemn Israel's plan for expanding Jerusalem and would call on the government to rescind it. Ambassador to the UN Dore Gold told the council that the plan is related to the development of municipal services.

"This is not a new political program affecting the political status of Jerusalem," he said.

It was not clear when the council would conclude its debate, which was initiated by the Arab Group over the objections of the US. It also was not known if the US would exercise its veto, as Israel has suggested, in the 15-member council.

Marilyn Henry

Final Ben-Porat report published today

State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat is to release her final report today, this one regarding the appointment of directors to government companies. The report is extremely critical about the political linkage between appointees and the ministers who pick them. The report finds that one third of the current directors and one-half of chairmen received their positions through political connections. The report states that "it is quite obvious that appointment through political connections is still rampant."

Irit

Sharansky discusses cooperation in Tashkent

Trade Minister Natan Sharansky and Uzbek President Islam Karimov yesterday discussed possible cooperation in farming, telecommunications, energy and environmental protection, the Interfax news agency reported.

He quoted Sharansky as saying they also discussed terrorism and Islamic fundamentalism during a two-hour meeting in the Uzbek capital of Tashkent.

"We suffer from it and Uzbekistan, an Islamic country, is doing its utmost to prevent such an extremity," Sharansky said.

AP

Ivry: Boost-phase interceptors key to defense

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The best deterrence against the surface-to-surface missile (SSM) threat to Israel is to deploy an interceptor to destroy it in its initial boost phase, David Ivry, special adviser to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, said yesterday.

Ivry, who is responsible for consolidating Israel's updated defense doctrine, believes that a country that knows the lethal cargo of its warhead may end up falling back on it would think

twice about using non-conventional weapons.

Speaking at a conference entitled "Air Power - A Look to the Future," Ivry said air superiority has been a "silver bullet" and is no longer an effective deterrent against the surface-to-surface threat to Israel from the seven countries in the region which possess them and are inclined to arm them with non-conventional warheads.

"The IAF is a valuable force in war, but the value and roles of the air force in the defense doctrine

will decrease if it does not supply an effective response to the surface-to-surface threat," Ivry predicted.

A former deputy chief of the General Staff and OC Air Force, Ivry said that land forces no longer fit into the equation of deterrence if there is no common border between enemies. Deterrence will come from more air power, he said.

Boost-phase interceptors, which would have the capability of hitting ballistic missiles during their first minutes of flight while their engines are still boosting them, are the best deterrent, Ivry said. He listed five ways to protect Israel from non-conventional warheads: intelligence, early warning, civil defense, active defense, and boost-phase interception.

"Deterrence will be enhanced against SSM with non-conventional warheads if we could hit them in the boost-phase, since it threatens the country which launched it with having the chemical or biological warheads falling back on them," Ivry said.

There is no boost-phase interceptor currently operative, but a number are being developed. The United States is working on the Airborne Laser (ABL), which is a two-megawatt laser to be carried on the nose of a Boeing 747-400F, which would fire at theater ballistic missiles on the way up.

Last month, the US Air Force conducted the first successful test of the high-energy laser module for its YAL-1A Airborne Laser program.

Some experts say that Israel's only option for now is to put the interceptor at or near the enemy's country and many see unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) as the best way to achieve this. Ovadia Harari, executive vice president of Israel Aircraft Industries, said that UAV's needed to be made stealthy and capable of extended flight before they could perform long-range missions.

the future of the city. He also urged the UN Security Council, which began debate on the Jerusalem plan Tuesday, to condemn Israel. The council has shelved the matter indefinitely without a vote.

PA Finance Minister Mohammed Nashashibi told the legislators that meetings and summits would not by themselves be enough to stop Israel's moves in east Jerusalem and are "not an alternative to the confrontation."

The Jerusalem plan, introduced last month, would expand the city's boundaries westward, into Israel proper, to increase the

Jewish population. It would also extend Jerusalem municipal authority to nearby Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

Arafat said: "Our Legislative Council is meeting today at this emergency session, to [discuss] plans which are able to protect Jerusalem from the settlement dangers which threaten it, after the failure of all the international efforts during the last two years to stop the current Israeli government."

The Netanyahu government, he added, "wants to change the Arabic nature of the sacred city, and deface its cultural sites."

In his speech, Arafat said the

Palestinians would never settle for Israeli control over all of the city.

"The patience of the Palestinian leadership and the Palestinian people has run out," Arafat said. "Let Netanyahu and his government know that Jerusalem is a red line, and that there is not one person among us who would make concessions on any grain of soil of Jerusalem."

US Consul General in Jerusalem John Herbst attended Arafat's speech, but declined to comment on it.

PLC speaker Ahmed Koreh Abu Ala said: "The Israeli decision to boost their dominance of the

sacred city, and what is called the Greater Jerusalem, is a provocation against our feelings."

Earlier yesterday, the Palestinians sent a message to US President Bill Clinton, asking him not to veto a Security Council condemnation of Israel, said Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat.

Erekat said a US veto would raise questions about Washington's role as mediator in the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. "If this should happen, then we can no longer say that the United States is the co-sponsor of the peace process," Erekat said.

Clinton: US not imposing solution

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - US President Bill Clinton has reiterated that the administration is not seeking to impose a solution on Israel, and that "at no time" has he issued an ultimatum to anyone in order to advance the peace process.

"It is not our intention to second-guess Israeli decisions on security; nor have we done so," Clinton wrote to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

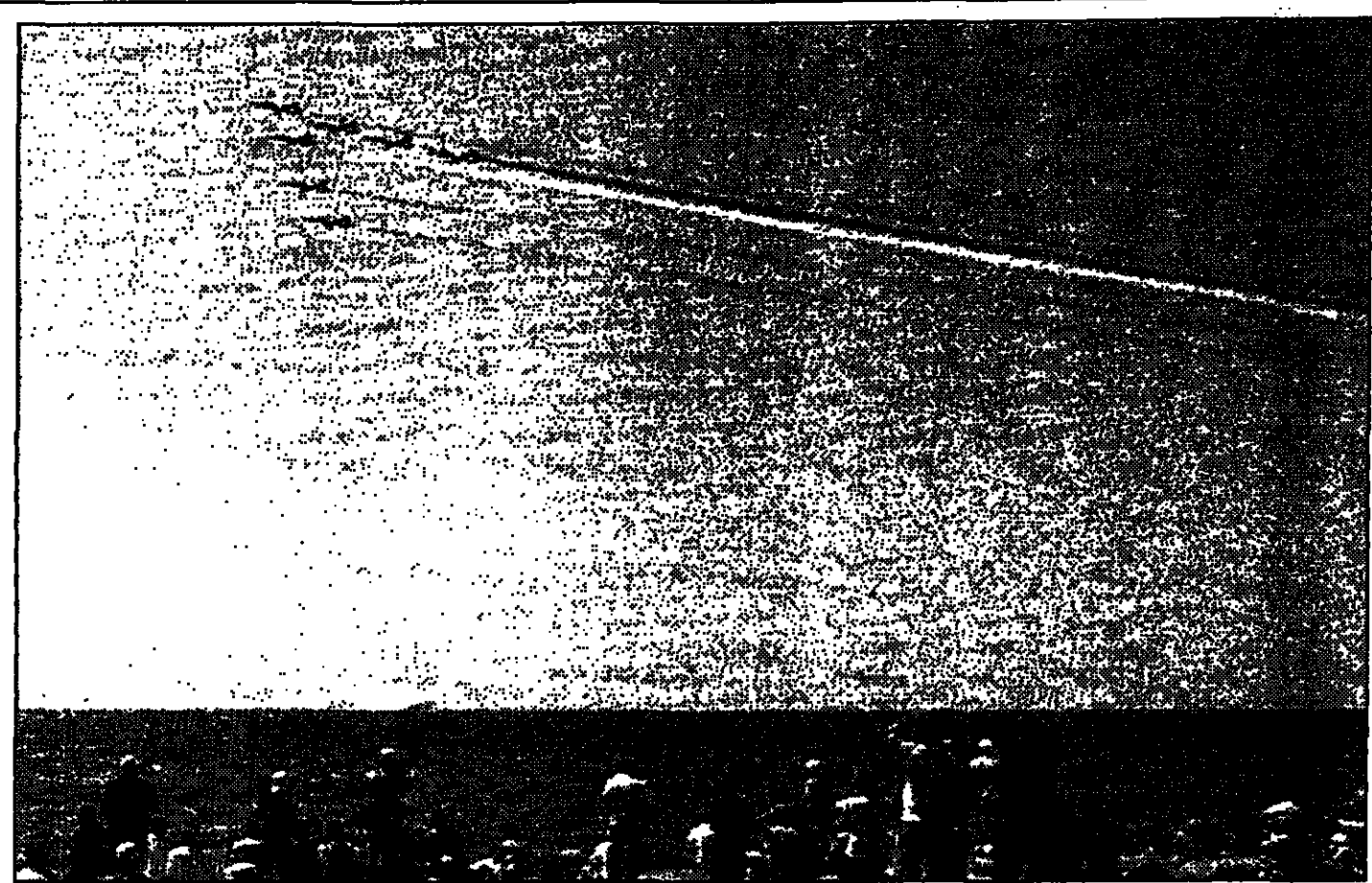
"Israeli security remains the responsibility of the Israeli government. Decisions concerning Israel's security, and on the peace process, must be made by Israel," he said. "Israelis understand that ultimately real security cannot be achieved without real peace. I want to assure you that my firm commitment to Israel and its security remains unshakable."

The remarks came in response to a letter the Conference sent to Clinton, expressing concern over perceived American pressure on Israel to agree to the US's formula for the next West Bank redeployment and the start of final-status negotiations with the Palestinians.

Clinton wrote that the US presented its proposals "only after it was unmistakably clear" that Israel and the Palestinians were at a "fundamental impasse," and only after the passage of ten months of a stalemate.

The president wrote that he has consistently impressed on Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat the need to fight terrorism "every day of the year."

"Our ideas would create a structure for helping to ensure enduring, not episodic, Palestinian action in this area," Clinton said. "The difficult decisions to be made on our ideas, as on all the peace process issues, rest solely with the Israelis and the Palestinians."



Up and away

Spectators watch yesterday's air spectacular off the Tel Aviv shore.

(Scoop)

Meretz uses parliamentary maneuver to ensure vote next week on draft bill for yeshiva students

By LIAT COLLINS

In a move aimed at preempting the haredi parties, Meretz whip Haim Oron filed an appeal yesterday on the decision by Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, saying the bills by Labor leader Ehud Barak and Ran Cohen (Meretz) on compulsory service for yeshiva students are not different from the one by Tsomet whip Eliezer Zandberg, which failed in the spring.

By raising this claim first, Oron has been able to get the discussion on the appeal set for next Tuesday, which means it would be over by Wednesday, when Tichon said Barak's and Cohen's bill could come up for preliminary reading.

It thwarts the possible plan by haredi MKs to file a similar appeal later in the week and drag out the debate on whether the bills can be heard or not, with the aim of delaying them until after the summer recess, which starts at the end of the month.

When he filed the appeal, Oron said Tichon had determined the bills could come up next week "and so it should be. Anyone who wants

to use [parliamentary] maneuvers to drag out the debate and delay it should know that the Knesset House Rules belong to all MKs. The maneuvers planned by the haredi parties also have answers in the Knesset House Rules, and it is fitting for all of us to use it to administer the serious and pertinent work of the Knesset."

The haredi MKs have not finally decided on how to act on the bill. The Knesset House Committee, which will hear the appeal, is chaired by Shas MK Raphael Pinhasi.

His agreement to hear the appeal this week to enable it to come up for preliminary reading Wednesday seems to stem from the Shas stand that it would be better for the bill to be heard and defeated - which means it cannot be heard for at least another six months plus the recess period - than to postpone it as the United Torah Judaism MKs seem to favor.

National Religious Party whip Shmaryahu Ben-Tsur said his faction would not support Barak's bill, although the party believes in the draft.

FEUD

Continued from Page 1

"The citizens of Israel realize we have serious problems and they know they must not continue sailing on the ship when the captain doesn't miss any iceberg he can crash into," said Milo.

Liav Collins adds: Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon said yesterday that the president and prime minister have defined areas of responsibility within which they should work.

"This isn't to say that [the president] can't express his opinion, but he should definitely do so with caution on issues relating to democracy, elections, and the Knesset," Tichon said.

Nonetheless, he added, "They will work together. There's no alternative."

Weizman was also the star of a parliamentary question raised in the Knesset yesterday, this time not over something he said, but rather over the use of his puppet in the Channel 2 satire, Hartzufim, in a commercial.

The matter was raised by MK Rafi Elul (Labor). Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, a self-declared fan of satire, said that if the commercial exploitation bothered the president he could, like every other citizen, sue the advertiser.

CLARIFICATION

The cooperation between the Israeli and French space agencies, as reported in "Israel, France to probe space, laser cooperation" (June 22), has no military objectives at all and is only for purely scientific goals, namely monitoring the environment in the context of global change.

GOLD

Continued from Page 1

"One has to recognize that the settlement is not necessarily a global settlement if other players are not involved" in the talks, Eisenstadt said.

Credit Suisse and UBS AG offered a \$530 million settlement and have pledged to pay claims arising from the forensic audit of war-time accounts. They also said they have spent \$70m. to establish the Swiss humanitarian fund for needy Nazi victims and more than \$200m. to reconstruct records. The World Jewish Congress, the World Jewish Restitution Organization and survivors' lawyers dismissed the offer as "insulting," and reportedly are seeking \$1.5 billion.

Eisenstadt stopped short of saying that the talks had broken off entirely. But, he told reporters that lengthy litigation serves no one's interest and is a missed opportunity for closure for Switzerland.

He repeated the American view that sanctions are unwarranted and counterproductive.

At the Hevesi meeting, the WJC said the State Department's position on sanctions was "irrelevant," according to the Swiss media.

"Sanctions are wrong both in principle and practice," Eisenstadt said. They are at odds with US foreign policy, which wants to maintain positive relations with Switzerland. "As Ecclesiastes says, to everything there is a season, and we have reached a point in Swiss public opinion where accusations are having a negative effect... because of the drum beat of the sanctions threat," he said.

He also called on the finance officers to safeguard the US as the most open and attractive financial market in the world.

TUESDAY'S LOTTERY

The winning lottery numbers on Tuesday were 1, 11, 29, 30, 38, and 48. The additional number was 9.

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Marcel Klapisch **Rabbi Ephraim Klapisch**
and their families

בנחמת ציון וירושלים תנוחמו

ד"ר משה אלון

Ministers file plan for settlers' radio station

By DAVID HARRIS, LIAT COLLINS and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

A team of ministers yesterday handed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu its proposals for the establishment of an independent radio station for Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

The ministers, including Communications Minister Limor Livnat and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy, are recommending the publication of a tender to run the station.

The successful applicant will be chosen by a council comprising residents of the territories and government representatives. That council of 15 would then monitor the station as a broadcasting authority. The obvious lead candidate to run the new station is Arutz 7, a station already broadcasting to the territories but under police investigation on suspicion that it has violated broadcasting laws.

The proposals were also handed to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein for his response, Levy told reporters.

Any approval of the plan is dependent on Rubinstein, who in the past has objected to similar schemes. Rubinstein has also intimated to Levy that in the future he may be prepared to allow the creation of other radio stations.

If the recommendations of the committee are endorsed, the defense ministry will publish the tender in the coming months.

Arutz 7 is closely associated with the National Religious Party, which is pressuring the Netanyahu government to grant the station legal status rather than closing it down.

Molodet's political support is also at stake, with the party's two MKs threatening not to vote with the government unless there is an agreement to set up a legal channel.

During a meeting yesterday of the Knesset Economics committee, MKs from a variety of parties demanded that other "pirate" radio stations also be granted a broadcast license.

Shas wants to see official recognition of Kol Ha'emet and Radio 10, while the United Arab List called

for licenses to be handed out to Moslem stations. Committee Chairman Avi Yehzekel (Labor) said that pretty soon there will be 120 radio stations if every MK's demand is met.

"The existing model in which illegal stations are opened and then they receive legal backing and a license is anarchy, which the government is not tackling," said Yehzekel.

Other Labor MKs condemned the ministerial plan saying there is no need for broadcasts which represent the interests of only one section of society.

Rubinstein said yesterday he had proposed that Arutz 7 would operate under the auspices of the Second Broadcasting Authority, as a franchise which will be overseen by the authority, the Civil Administration and representatives of Judea and Samaria communities.

However, this model was rejected by the Judea, Samaria and Gaza Jewish Communities Council and subsequently also by the Second Broadcasting Authority.

Settlers: Security map isolates us in enclaves

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Settlers yesterday continued to criticize the national security interest map presented to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday, saying it is inconceivable Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would endanger 59 communities in Judea and Samaria by making them isolated enclaves.

The map prepared by OC Planning Branch Maj.-Gen. Shlomo Yanai shocked settlers, who discovered that Har Bracha, Itamar, Alon Moreh, Yitzhar, Kadumim, Rehelim, Shavei Shomron, Beit El, Ma'aleh Levona, and Eli - to name a few - are outside the national security area.

Settlers said they would fight such a plan, declaring they would topple the government if the map is used as a basis for the Sharm agreements and West Bank redeployment.

Yehudit Tayar, spokeswoman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said council members are extremely concerned "but believe that Netanyahu would not approve the map. 'We will do everything in our power to prevent Netanyahu accepting such a situation,' she declared.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister's Office Director-General Uri Elitzur, one of the communities marked outside the national security interest boundary, said the government views all the communities in Judea and Samaria as remaining under Israeli control.

Interviewed on Arutz 7 yesterday, Elitzur said the settlements in Judea and Samaria would be allowed to exist "in a way that they can live, with roads leading to them, so they will not be isolated and not turned into enclaves or islands within Palestinian territory - this goes for each and every community."

Elitzur warned, however, that settlers in the 100 communities listed inside the national security interest boundaries should be concerned, not just those "outside" it. "Those who appear inside the designated area shouldn't think they are okay, but the present government views all settlements as top priority," he said.

Speaking on Channel 2 yesterday, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said the map represents military interests only. "The map shown to the cabinet contained national and security interests and all the communities in Judea and

Samaria were included in those areas," he said.

Meanwhile, Amir Kitron, deputy head of the Har Hevron Regional Council, said the map jolted residents. He said the residents would oppose such a plan and warned "it is the beginning of a struggle against the government. People are starting to realize the meaning of redeployment and how their lives will be affected," he said.

The redeployment will affect many communities, not just those listed on the map, Kitron said, adding, "communities that aren't turned into isolated enclaves, but surrounded by Area A under total Palestinian control, are in a serious position also."

Beit El Mayor Uri Ariel said residents from his and other communities had called to express concern. Ariel, one of the founders of the Likud movement that calls for toppling the government if any redeployment takes place, said he was surprised by the number of communities that will be affected. "I thought the number would be far less," he said.

Ariel, who is spending the week at the protest tent opposite the Prime Minister's Office with other Beit El residents, said settlers plan to picket highway intersections throughout the country with slogans. "I'm sure Netanyahu realizes he cannot go ahead with such a plan. That is the reason he is still stalling despite the US pressure," he said.

Meanwhile, Tayar charged that the military map shows that officials have no interest in the territories' communities. If Netanyahu agrees to such a plan, he will be destroying all chances of contiguity for Jewish communities, she said.

Weizman is not directly involved in politics "allows him to see things in a more balanced fashion."

"The president is opening his own private campaign to overturn the government," concludes Yossi Venter in *Ha'aretz*. "Therefore, Weizman is the head of the opposition in Israel."

Har-Shen's rights

Following Margalit, Har-Shen's conviction in court for not preventing the assassination of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the press responded to reports that Har-Shen received government financing during her studies at Bar-Ilan University.

"We don't have been too much to expect from an academic institution," he temporarily broke Har-Shen from the list of suspects and those entitled to support until the serious allegations against her were cleared," asks Rafi Man in *Ma'ariv*.

Anna Isakova, also writing in *Ma'ariv*, disagrees. She believes that a person is innocent until proven guilty. "When a society judges someone before he is heard in court, this is known as a public lynch."

Endangering science

Netanyahu's agreement with United Torah Judaism MKs to appoint a new archeological committee that will be more sensitive on the issue of desecrating graves, stems from a long and brutal battle between science and religion.

Ben-Dror Yemini, of *Ma'ariv*, accuses the government of surrendering to haredim under the pretense of sensitivity. "These archeological diggings that the haredim are so angry about, still remain the most significant historical document that connects the ancient Israeli nation and the land of Israel."

In an editorial, *Ha'aretz* states that the new committee will reduce the authority of the professionals and increase the power of the haredim.



Betar Illit's new police, Civil Guard station

Betar Illit resident David Bokjin greets policeman Gabi Yoram of the community's new police station yesterday as Ankor Tovith looks on. Judea and Samaria police spokesman Opher Sivan said eight such stations will be established in Judea and Samaria. Once a community police station is opened, a Civil Guard unit is allowed to be established to enhance security and patrol with police, he said.

(Text: Margot Dudkevitch; photo: Joe Malachuk)

First harvest for crop of new bills

Preliminary passages

The Knesset yesterday passed a series of bills on preliminary reading. Among them were: * A bill by MK Ruby Rivlin (Likud), Yossi Beilin (Labor) and Dedi Zucker (Meretz) calling for a one-year cooling off period for senior public officials before they can run for Knesset.

The bill applies to judges, religious court judges, the president, and senior civil servants and police officers as well as IDF generals.

Although it would not take effect quickly enough to impact upon outgoing Chief of General Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Rivlin said it is aimed at senior IDF officers to avoid politicization of the military.

A bill under which Israelis who have lived abroad for at least five years and return during the jubilee year would be given the same rights and benefits as new immigrants. The bill was proposed by Yitzhak Cohen (Shas).

A bill which would ban hunting for sports, entertainment or pleasure. The bill was presented by MK Hanan Porat (National Religious Party) who said hunting for sport violates halacha and should be rejected by an advanced and humane society. Hunting animals which are pests or spread dangerous diseases would only be done with a special license.

A bill under which a woman

soldier would be eligible to be appointed to any position in the military on the basis of her ability and suitability without regard to gender. The bill was submitted by Meretz MKs Naomi Chazan, Ran Cohen and Anat Maor.

A bill which would ensure that a soldier on reserve duty would receive at least the equivalent of minimum wages for the period. The bill was proposed by MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz).

A bill which would ban unpreserved use of drugs and tranquilizers for children under age 18. The bill was filed by MK Yona Yahav (Labor) and signed by 47 other MKs.

An amendment by MK Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism), which would have prevented the non-Jewish relatives of a convert from having rights under the Law of Return, was defeated at preliminary reading by a large majority.

Palestinian VIP

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told the Knesset yesterday that defense officials had returned the VIP card to the head of the Palestinian Security Apparatus in Ramallah, Col. Tawfik Tirawi. This was because no direct or indirect connection had been proved between Tirawi and murderers of Arab land deal-

AT THE KNESSET

By William Maclean

ers who sold land to Jews. He was answering a parliamentary motion by

MK Hanan Porat (National Religious Party). "To the best of my understanding, returning the card contributes to the security of the region," said Mordechai. He said the defense establishment had recommended the VIP card be returned to Tirawi as the person responsible for general security on the Palestinian side.

MK Benny Elon (Molodet) took exception to Mordechai's statement that the card was returned "to build a possible relationship." Elon said this policy would "explode in Israel's face."

Security ideas

The defense establishment is working on new formulations about Israel's security concepts, which will be presented to the government and Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. This was the response of Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom to several motions on remarks by outgoing Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnai that Israel has no updated security concept.

Shalom said a number of workshops had been held to form guidelines and that a number of teams would examine the best response in the different fields.

The process is being coordinated by Maj.-Gen. (res.) David Ivry, senior aide to the defense minister, in cooperation with Maj.-Gen. Shlomo Yanai, head of the IDF planning division.

"In our opinion there has been no change for the worse in Israel's ability to cope with the threats it faces, although there is a definite need for certain changes in emphasis as a result of the change in the nature of the threats, the diplomatic process, the resources allocated to security and so on," Shalom said.

Eye on Iran

Answering several motions on the implications for Israel of US policy towards Iran, Shalom said Israel hopes the US will stand firm in demanding changes on four issues before initiating a conciliation with it: stopping support for terrorism; changing its attitude to the peace process; respecting human rights; and stopping the development of weapons of mass destruction.

Shalom said there are no signs that Iran has made any significant change in its policy towards Israel although there have been some small changes, mainly in rhetoric.

He condemned the recent execution of a prominent member of the Iranian Jewish community and continued support for terrorism in Lebanon.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Weizman vs. Netanyahu

President Ezer Weizman's unprecedented attack against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and call for early elections, followed by Netanyahu's accusation that Weizman is siding with the Palestinians, continued "a clash between two worlds, a terrible collision whose results could be devastating," Shalom Yemshaiim writes in *Ha'aretz*.

"From the beginning, the premier will attempt to push the president deep into the margins of his competence, turning him into Arafat's collaborator," predicts Yemshaiim. Nahum Barnea, of *Netanyahu*, states that Weizman's call has for the first time forced Netanyahu to expose his fear of elections, which he knows could be a complicated and difficult task to win.

Chemi Shalev, writing in *Ma'ariv*, says that Netanyahu has reached an irreversible low point in his local and international status and that Weizman's attack left him helpless. "Weizman's blow has dropped on Netanyahu's battered head like an ax," he writes.

Shalev suggests that the only way to remedy the situation is by promoting early elections, despite Weizman's suggestion and not because of it. "Shalev asserts that the president has pushed the few red lines that remained in Israeli democracy."

Other writers focus on Weizman's departure from his role as ceremonial president.

Rami Tal, writing in *Yedioth*, argues that certain rules have been established which obligate all presidents. "When Weizman decided to run for president, he should have known that he must give up the political form."

Mani Golan, also in *Yedioth*, claims that "the leading hero in this new affair... is hypocrisy," referring to the fact that the right or left wings support the president's statements as long as he promotes their own

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NEWS

in brief

4 youths charged in Carmel Forest gang rape

The Haifa District Attorney's Office yesterday charged four youths from Daliat al-Carmel with rape, sodomy, and other crimes in connection with the gang rape of a 15-year-old girl in the Carmel Forest.

Immediately afterwards, Judge Arye Razi of the Haifa District Court extended the remand of the four youths until July 10, when the next hearing will be held. Nizar Salah, Nadir Jibban, Naif Naur, and Alaa Kassem, all 18, carried out the rape and assaulted the victim's boyfriend on June 20, according to the charge sheet.

Itim

Drug companies: Ministry data inaccurate

Drug company representatives who oppose opening up the import of pharmaceuticals to competition charged yesterday that the Health Ministry is providing "inaccurate" data on current prices and claiming they were much more expensive than their counterparts sold abroad. Speaking to the Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee, which was discussing ministry-initiated legislation to allow competitive imports of pharmaceuticals, Health Minister Yehoshua Matza said those who oppose it are being guided by economic interests rather than public health.

Judy Siegel

Breast cancer rate 'static'

The breast cancer rate in Israel has been static over the past eight years after a significant increase in morbidity between 1960 and 1990, according to Prof. Tamar Peretz, director of the Sharet Institute of Oncology at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem. Peretz was speaking at a seminar yesterday at Beit Hatfutsot in Tel Aviv that was held to mark an exhibition of a photograph by Frederick Brenner showing six American Jewish women with their bare chests after mastectomy. Peretz said she was not sure why the breast cancer rate had reached a plateau, but "apparently, those factors that caused it to increase have been weakened; these are apparently environmental and connected to way of life."

Judy Siegel

New Army Radio: 60% Hebrew songs

The new Army Radio broadcast program published yesterday calls for an increase in Hebrew songs to 60 percent, as well as the playing of more Oriental music – and the cancellation of the Erev Hadash news show. However, the morning news show, *Boker Tov Yisrael*, will be expanded to between 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. The new program, due to begin on September 1, was presented at a news conference in Tel Aviv by the commander of the radio station, Dr. Ze'ev Drori and chief editor Gil Omer.

Itim

MKs: Haredim threaten archeology

By AMY KLEIN

MKs and demonstrators smashed clay urns in front of the Knesset yesterday to symbolize the "end of archeology" – which they fear would occur if the prime minister replaces Israel Antiquities Authority Director-General Amir Drori.

A few hundred demonstrators pushed wheelbarrows filled with pottery from the Wohl Rose Garden to the Knesset, carrying placards including one that read "Archeology is being buried." They were protesting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's alleged promise to the haredi parties to increase their influence on the authority.

"The prime minister's capitulation to haredi pressures to replace the archeological council with haredim – who are not professionals – and to replace the director with someone who is unfamiliar with archeology will bring an end to archeology in the State of Israel," authority archeologist Dr. Ronny Reich told the rally.

The prime minister intends to replace Drori with Tiberias Mayor Yossi Peretz, said MK Dedi Zucker (Meretz). Spokesmen from both the Prime Minister's Office and Peretz's office deny the reports.

Drori, who has served as director-general of the authority since 1991, is to complete his term on April 1, 2000.

He was not at the demonstration – which was composed mainly of authority workers – but said earlier this week that the appointment of someone who is not a professional would lead to "complete destruction."

Peretz, whose term as mayor ends in four months, wears a kippa but is not haredi.

"The haredim will not be happy with Peretz's appointment," said Zucker, "and they will still have



MK Haggai Merom breaks a pottery jug outside the Knesset yesterday as part of a protest against a haredi threat to take over the Antiquities Authority. (Brian Hendler)

created trouble for the Antiquities Authority."

MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism), who has drafted legislation to appoint a ministerial committee to supervise excavations involving bones, said there should be no dispute between the authority and the religious parties. "Only 10% of the excavations involve bones, and we want a ministerial

committee to oversee those cases," said Gafni. "According to the law, the Antiquities Authority does not touch bones. If Amir Drori upheld the law, then we would have no problem with him."

MK Yael Dayan (Labor) told the demonstrators: "If we bury the past, we are burying our future."

Other MKs who spoke included Rehavam Ze'evi (Mokedet), Emanuel Zissman (The Third Way), and Haggai Merom (Labor), head of the archeology lobby in the Knesset. The lobby, which had called an emergency meeting on Monday on the issue, sent a letter to the president and the prime minister yesterday saying the prime minister's promise to the haredi parties will be the start of "a harsh blow to all free and serious science."

At the end of the demonstration, the MKs and some of the authority workers took commercial pottery vessels from the wheelbarrows, raised them over their heads, and shattered them on the ground.

Matza: Maccabi's new health fund not approved

By JUDY SIEGEL

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza yesterday issued a warning to one million members of the Maccabi health fund that he had not approved the insurer's new supplementary health insurance scheme to which Maccabi plans to transfer them.

The Arrangements Law passed by the Knesset last December set down rules barring health funds from providing supplementary health insurance – except for geriatric nursing care – through profit-making affili-

ated companies; instead, the providers of such services must be part of the non-profit health funds.

Only Meuhedet had already been offering such an arrangement. Michal Abadi-Boyando, the ministry's deputy director-general for health funds, has been negotiating for months with Maccabi director-general Shabtai Shavit and other officials.

She said yesterday that Maccabi has so far refused to inform the ministry how much money has accumulated in the Maccabi Magen and Keren Maccabi funds

and how much they intend to transfer back to the health fund to meet the needs of those it insures.

"The health funds don't have an insurance license and no one supervises these activities," Abadi-Boyando said. "That's why we pushed for a change in the law."

Abadi-Boyando said that if Maccabi nevertheless transferred all Keren Maccabi and Magen Magen subscribers to the new Maccabi Silver and Maccabi Gold schemes, "it would be violating the health minister's instructions."

Matza issued orders suspending

the transfer "until the money accumulated in the funds are transferred to Maccabi," Matza said.

Yitzhak Ganor, Maccabi's director of finances, insisted that the matter resulted from "a misunderstanding," and that the health fund had transferred all relevant documents to the ministry. "Everything was agreed upon for the transfer, except for the amount of money to be transferred to Maccabi," he said.

The ministry had suddenly made new demands hours before the transfer was to go into effect, he said.

Disciplinary hearings ordered against 5 nurses for malpractice

By JUDY SIEGEL

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza instructed ministry officials yesterday to institute disciplinary hearings against five public health nurses in the Netanya Sub-District Health Office for giving anti-tuberculosis (BCG) vaccine to seventh-grade pupils instead of the standard tuberculin skin test.

Matza decided on this action after receiving a report from a committee that investigated the incident, which occurred at Netanya's Bar-Ilan School in May.

Ministry complaints will be filed in the next few days. The ministry spokesman also said that "in view of other information that has accumulated, an additional committee has been appointed to examine the broader functioning of the Netanya Sub-District Health Office, with recommendations expected by mid-month."

After the incident, which

involved pupils in seven classes in the school, the ministry spokesman said the vaccine would cause pupils no harm.

But in its conclusions, the ministry committee said yesterday that it recommended "proper follow-up of pupils who were vaccinated by mistake in order to reach medical/scientific conclusions."

One of the nurses had injected the vaccine without diluting it, even though that is required; she said she thought her supervisor had given her ready-made vaccine and "knew what she was doing."

About a week after the pupils were injected, the school secretary called the health office to say there were "many bad reactions" to the vaccinations, including swelling and pus emanating from the point of the needle's entry.

After checking, officials realized that vaccine had been given, instead of an immunity test, and the ministry's epidemiology

department was informed.

The committee, headed by Haifa District Health Officer Shmuel Rishpon, said giving the pupils a TB skin test (to see if they have antibodies against TB) next year should be considered.

Aside from the hearings against the nurses – all of whom started working for the sub-district office this year – it was recommended that "frontal lectures" on giving vaccinations and registering them should be significantly increased.

Every school should have a guide on vaccinations, and no material should be injected without consulting the guide beforehand (the committee discovered that due to a shortage of guides in the Netanya area, photocopies of pages from it were distributed among nurses, but these hadn't even reached the Bar-Ilan School).

The conducting of BCG tests would require the filling in of special forms unique to that test, the committee recommended.

Jerusalemite remanded for wife's disappearance

By AMY KLEIN

Jerusalemite Wahil Mizyed, along with his brother Marway, was remanded yesterday for the disappearance of his wife, Sima Mizyed, who has been missing for three months.

Sima, who converted to Islam 13 years ago when she married Wahil, recently tried to convert herself and her five children back to Judaism when she left her husband over marital problems. Sima left their home in Sheikh Jarrah seven months ago and moved with her children to the capital's Katamonim neighborhood near her parents.

On April 4, Sima received a phone call and told her eldest 12-year-old son that she would be back in an hour. When she did not return by the following morning, the boy told his grandmother, who alerted the police.

Police still do not know whether Sima is alive. At the end of April they arrested a suspect, Ahmed Waziz, in connection with the disappearance.

They released him after 27 days, though he is still considered a suspect in the case.

Yesterday, Judge Rafi Carmel of the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court remanded Wahil, 35, and Marway, 30, for eight days and wrote that "their

release would disrupt the investigation."

Ziad Mizyed, the older brother of the two suspects, said his brothers were arrested to prevent Wahil from getting custody of the children. "My brother received a Supreme Court order granting him full custody, and then police got a one-month postponement of the decision," said Ziad.

The one-month postponement has just ended, he said.

The five Ziad children, whose conversion to Judaism is the subject of a debate between the Rabbinical Court and Supreme Court, have been placed in foster care, said Ziad.



Jews in Sports

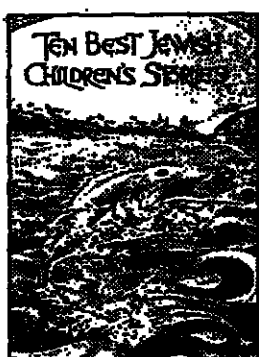
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הספרייה הלאומית

ACRI blasts 'official' racism against Arabs

By GIL HOFFMAN

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel yesterday accused the government of discriminating against Arabs and other minorities.

"Policies reducing gaps in resource allocation and encouraging social integration, which began under the previous administration, have been halted over the past two years," ACRI said in its annual status report on human rights, which was released yesterday.

While ACRI president Prof. Ruth Gavison said progress has been made on some fronts, she criticized the government for ignoring the needs of the Arab minority and "creating a threatening atmosphere that makes violations of human rights more acceptable."

Responding to the allegations, David Bar-Ilan, the prime minister's communications adviser, said, "I do not think Israel is in any way guilty of human rights violations. The prime minister has made efforts to remove discrimination and elevate the standard of living among minorities. This government has done more for the Arab minority in this country than any other before. The threatening atmosphere in this country is due to the statements of certain MKs."

The report recommends affirmative action to equalize resources allocated to Jews and Arabs and to compensate for budgetary gaps of the past.

Regarding issues of land ownership, the report says long-standing policies of denying equality to Arab citizens have intensified in the last year.

The report referred specifically

to a petition pending before the High Court of Justice submitted by an Israeli Arab couple who were not permitted to purchase a house in the Jewish settlement of Katzir. ACRI also accused the government of transferring state land to the Jewish Agency in order to prevent the land from being sold to Arabs.

The report condemns the use of torture in GSS interrogations, the use of administrative detention, and the demolition of Arab houses. Gavison said the Oslo agreements have made life worse for some Palestinians, who she said are now subject to human rights violations by both Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

Bar-Ilan said the policy of razing houses built without permits is practiced equally with regard to Jews and Arabs. He criticized the report, saying, "The masochistic tendencies of human rights organizations that totally ignore the basic fundamental differences between the way people are treated under totally non-democratic regimes and a democratic government like ours is discouraging."

While progress has been made in achieving equal rights for other minorities, including women and homosexuals, the report says they still have a long way to go. However, ACRI praises a new law requiring at least one woman on the board of directors of all public companies and new Civil Service regulations providing dependent's allowances for homosexual couples.

The report also criticizes the treatment of foreign workers in Israel and says they should be entitled to public health insurance.

By LIAT COLLINS

Justice Eliezer Goldberg was sworn in as the new state comptroller and ombudsman, replacing Miriam Ben-Porat in a simple ceremony in the Knesset yesterday.

Under a new law, he can hold the position for one seven-year term rather than the previous two five-year periods that his predecessor served.

"Law, values and conscience are the guides of the comptroller, and being faithful to them is his invaluable permanent asset," said Goldberg in his speech. "The comptroller's job is as a representative of the public and, as such, he must derive his strength not just from the word of the law but from the legitimization of the public."

Although it should have been Goldberg's day, attention was focused more on President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who briefly met and shook hands in the Speaker's office before the ceremony. This meeting came shortly after their conciliatory breakfast following their mutual criticism of each other this week and Weizman's call for early elections.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon alluded to the rift when he concluded his speech. "The basic principle of Israeli democracy is separation between different bodies of authority. It is worth remaining faithful to this separation and not allowing one body to invade the area of its colleague. There is a long tradition of cooperation and reciprocity between the various authorities, not necessarily according to the book, and the



New State Comptroller Eliezer Goldberg and his predecessor Miriam Ben-Porat are toasted yesterday at the Knesset by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon (right) and his wife Ludmilla. (Isaac Harari)

people sitting here can testify to that."

Tichon told Goldberg that "none of us likes criticism, but without the state comptroller it would be impossible. There must be criticism, and it should be fair and reasoned. You will be the 'Wailing Wall' for people with complaints

about the government. This is the opportunity to tell the public: 'Don't hesitate to turn to the ombudsman.'"

He said publishing "biannual, real-time" reports should be considered.

"An advanced, democratic country recognizes the essential

need for supervision of the actions of the administration and of the added strength to society as a result of this," Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi said. "This supervision is an inseparable part of the productive process. It is not intended to destroy, slander, or ground public faith in the govern-

mental system. On the contrary, it enriches the quality of these establishments, and in this way strengthens their standing in the eyes of the public which depend on them."

The speakers also all praised Ben-Porat for her work in the position.

Yad Vashem receives \$1m. gift from Dutch firm

By NOAH STREET

Yad Vashem will receive \$1 million from the Dutch Baan Company to computerize the memorial, it was announced yesterday.

A symbolic "memorandum of understanding" between Baan, owned and founded by brothers Jan and Paul Baan, and Yad Vashem was signed yesterday at a ceremony at the museum and memorial. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, and Dutch Ambassador Corno van Hellenberg Hubar were present for the signing.

According to a prepared statement, "the gift will be put towards the computerization of Yad Vashem as part of the 'Yad Vashem 2001' project, which will bring the museum into the next millennium and with modern technology meet the demands of future generations."

Jan Baan, founder and CEO of the Baan company, explained that "this gift was based on emotion, because we feel a strong relationship with Israel."



Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman (right) and Yad Vashem chairman Avner Shalev (second right) talk with Jan and Paul Baan yesterday during a ceremony at which the brothers gave \$1 million to computerize Yad Vashem. (Isaac Harari)

Paul Baan, the managing director of the company, said that "if

ties of the past.

He also said he hoped their contribution would be a catalyst for other wealthy philanthropists to donate their money.

Both Olmert and Neeman praised the contributions of the Baan brothers and their investment in and cultivation of the hi-tech industry here.

Michael Shalev, chief information officer for Yad Vashem, explained that the eventual goal is "to create an infrastructure that will hold all of Yad Vashem's knowledge."

This includes both computerizing Yad Vashem exhibits and placing all available information online. Yad Vashem has over 50 million documents, 250,000 films and photographs and millions of Holocaust victims' names.

Shalev estimated that the entire cost of creating this infrastructure would run well over \$10 million.

The Baan brothers are contributing to this infrastructure through Oikonomos, a foundation they established to direct funds earned from their interest in the Baan company.

By LIAT COLLINS

Israel should learn from Australia when it comes to university tuition.

That is the message sent out yesterday by a group of MKs who discussed proposals for free university level education during a joint meeting of the Knesset Education and Finance committees.

"I suggest adopting the Australian system under which the students don't pay for their studies and it is considered a loan which they pay back after they've finished," said MK Shlomo Ben-Ami (Labor), an initiator of the proposal.

His suggestion was backed by MKs Yehuda Lankri (Geshet), who said there are even African states suffering from economic problems which have free education. Ran Cohen (Meretz) also backed the idea, calling free academic studies "an investment."

University tuition currently stands at some NIS 10,000 a year.

Committee chairman Emanuel Zissmann (Third Way) said: "In the 50th year of the state, there is a need for a reform in higher education and education in general."

But, he added: "It is not acceptable that there be exemption from

tuition fees in universities, which less than half the [peer group] population attend, and full payment for kindergartens for children aged two to five, attended by 100 percent of the population. I suggest beginning a certain lowering of tuition fees in the coming year."

MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) said that although the percentage of the population which goes on to higher education in Israel is similar to that of Europe, it is much lower compared to Jewish communities abroad. He also supported the Australian model.

"A student needs some NIS 40,000 a year for tuition and living expenses," said Eran Weintraub,

chairperson of the National Students Union estimated that a student needs about NIS 40,000 a year for tuition. "For this, he needs to work more than 220 hours a month. This means he has no real free time for studies. I suggest at least lower tuition for the next academic year."

A representative of the Finance Ministry, Yael Andoren, said however that a public committee had in 1996 determined tuition fees for the next five years and the report's recommendations had been signed.

She said the bills being suggested would cost the state NIS 2 billion, which would have to come at the expense of the budget currently allocated to higher education.

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Algeria's Tel Aviv

Sunday's killing of popular singer Lounes Matoub, a cultural hero for Algerian Berbers, sparked serious riots and a huge public funeral.

Matoub was more likely murdered by extremist Islamic gunmen, but might have been killed by government forces.

Many Berbers, like Matoub himself, have been suspicious about both sides in the civil war.

The Region



Barry Rubin

In a region hyper-conscious about minority and ethnic groups, the Berbers seem largely invisible. They are indigenous inhabitants of North Africa and today comprise between 25 to 30 percent of Algeria's population, and around 30 to 40% of Morocco's people.

There has never been a Berber nationalist movement and Berbers in fact played an important role in the Moroccan and Algerian independence struggle. Individuals run the full range of assimilation, from highly Arabized to strongly Berber in language and culture. They can be found within all political factions and holding all ideologies, though they strongly support moderate democratic parties.

Berber distinctiveness remains more important in Algeria than in Morocco, where more tolerant policies have generally prevailed and the monarchy has often courted them. The territorial concentration of Algerian Berbers in the Kabyle mountains, where two-thirds of them live, has also strengthened their sense of identity. They resist Arabization, which challenges their own culture and distinctive language, and often prefer French-language media. Berbers are outraged by a new Algerian law, intended to woo support away from the Islamic revolutionary side, which makes Arabic compulsory in business and the educational system as of July 5.

One sign of the cultural identity movement has been an attempt by activists to popularize the name *Tamazgha* rather than the derogatory Greek-bestowed name *Berber*, which has the negative association with "barbarian." Last August, 250 delegates from around the world attended the first Amazigh World Congress.

While Berbers are Moslem, they usually oppose radical Islamic movements which disapprove of their freer religious practices. In fact, Algerian Islamic militants refer to Tizi Ouzou, the main Berber city, as "Tel Aviv." Indeed, it is said

that some Moroccan Jews are descendants of Berber tribes converted many centuries ago. Jews who lived in their areas spoke Berber, and contemporary Berber cultural activists are sometimes fascinated by the parallels and connections with Jewish experience.

From their economically depressed agricultural areas, many Berbers have migrated to the cities and also to France. The 42-year-old Matoub lived there himself for several years after 1994, when Islamic radicals kidnapped and held him for two weeks.

Matoub had declared that the Armed Islamic Group had sentenced him to death, and that he feared they would try to implement that decision.

His songs reflected Berber cultural traditions and support for democracy, while criticizing both radical Islamic movements and the government. "The Pan-Arab and Pan-Islamic path is a dead-end one," read one sign held by mourners.

Rioters, who blamed the government for the killing as a way both to eliminate a critic and blame its revolutionary Islamic enemies, broke windows in banks, government offices and shops. One man who physically resembled the provincial governor was injured when rocks were thrown at him. The demonstrations lasted only a few hours but the bitterness remains.

Algeria's seemingly endless and unwinnable civil war has so far claimed between 80,000 and 120,000 lives. Its longer-range causes is the Algerian state's failure to bring prosperity (despite huge natural gas reserves) or representative government. Most immediately, the fighting was set off when the army staged a coup to cancel a round of 1992 elections which would almost certainly have been won by the Islamic Salvation Front. More broadly, the civil war is a battle of identities for Algeria: nationalist or Islamic; Arabic or French/Mediterranean.

As has often happened to minority groups, the Berbers are caught in between. They want a democracy which will tolerate their self-expression and way of life. But they don't want a radical Islamic regime led by unsympathetic, dictatorial rulers who would suppress all their distinctive attributes.

For more information on Berber culture and politics, see the *Tamazgha* website: <http://www.worldlynx.net/tamazgha/>

Serbia's motivation problem

As radicalized Albanians join the Kosovo Liberation Army, the swelling insurgency is stirring among war-riven Yugoslavs resistance to yet another Balkan blood bath

By RICHARD BOUDREAU

POKLEK, Yugoslavia - Nebih Dervishi's three-story house went up in flames the other day, engulfing his sister's bridal gown, a room full of gifts and nearly everything else the ethnic Albanian family owned.

The wedding is going ahead, but Dervishi is going to war. In a clumsy assault on Albanian separatists, government troops have managed to shut down the farm where Dervishi, 33, was chief accountant, destroy the upscale village where he lived and drive thousands like him in Serbia's Kosovo province into armed rebellion. "Every time they burn a home," Dervishi fumed, "they create a new guerrilla."

In the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, 175 miles and a world away, Zoran Jakovljevic vented his own anger at the military. "This is not our war," he told a rally of Serbian parents demanding the return of their sons from the battlefield in the southern province. "We don't care about Kosovo."

As radicalized Albanians join the Kosovo Liberation Army, news of the swelling insurgency is hitting home in what's left of war-riven Yugoslavia, stirring resistance to yet another Balkan blood bath.

The motivation gap is a problem for Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, whose countrymen are deserting the police force and dodging the draft rather than face the world's fastest-growing guerrilla force.

About 50,000 Yugoslav army troops and Serbian police with tanks and helicopter gunships have been poured into a conflict with classic parallels to lost colonial causes. As in France's battle for Algeria and Russia's fight to crush ethnic separatists in Chechnya, the government here has superior firepower but scant popular support for a war.

The rebels, armed with little more than automatic rifles and hand-held rocket launchers, lack the training, coordination and hit-and-run mobility of a mature guerrilla army. But they have superior incentive - defending home ground against what they view as a foreign occupier.

Albanians make up 90 percent of Kosovo's population, and most of them share the rebels' goal of independent statehood.

"Only the Albanians know what they want and how to achieve it," said Serbian military affairs specialist Aleksandar Vasic. "For most Serbs, Kosovo is far away. There is no national consensus for a war there."

Armed repression has fed the separatist cause since Milosevic canceled Kosovo's autonomous status within Serbia in 1989. Building on a base of peasant self-defense militias that had operated in Kosovo for decades, the guerrillas began sustained attacks on the police last year.

The rebels were thought to num-



Orthodox nuns praying last Sunday in Gracanica, Kosovo, on St. Vitus Day which commemorates the Serb loss of Kosovo to the Ottomans in a 1389 battle. Some youngsters in Belgrade now say they don't care about the province which traditionally invoked passionate Serbian patriotism.

ber no more than a few hundred until March, when Milosevic's first major police assault on separatist villages killed 80 people in the Drenica Valley.

Instead of crushing a budding insurgency, the indiscriminate crackdown brought it to full bloom.

Now, with a new Serbian offensive reportedly under way, the once-clandestine guerrilla group is increasingly visible. Armed men and women, few in full uniform and no two dressed alike, stand at roadblocks outside their villages amid the spent bullet casings of recent skirmishes. They dart around in sedans with license plates reading "UCK," their movement's Albanian initials. They mingle easily with farmers and townspeople under their protection.

Studying a map sketched by two American reporters who had toured the province, Bosko Drobjaj, the Serbian government spokesman in Kosovo, conceded that it was "more or less" accurate. The map showed an uncontested guerrilla presence in about one-third of Kosovo.

Several thousand Albanians

have taken up arms since Milosevic's crackdown, according to conservative Western estimates. Ethnic Albanian civilian leaders believe it now numbers 20,000 to 30,000 fighters.

The growth comes from three sources - victims like Dervishi who fear their homes may soon be targets and Albanian expatriates drawn home to aid their kin. The new guerrillas are a cross-section of Kosovo society - farmers, poets, teachers, athletes and well-to-do professionals.

"It was enough to turn on the news and see those graves in Drenica," said a 23-year-old Kosovo Albanian who had been working four years as a cook in Stuttgart, Germany.

Along with manpower, the 400,000-strong Kosovo Albanian diaspora in northern Europe is mobilizing a war chest, hitting up individuals for \$60 to \$600 and companies for \$900 to \$3,000. The money moves through various channels to open-air arms markets in Albania, where guerrillas-to-be are hastily equipped and mustered for overnight mule treks over the

Shkelzen Mountains into Kosovo.

Alarmed by the Serbs' sweeping assaults, elders in some unscarred villages have also abandoned the peaceful independence struggle of Ibrahim Rugova, the best-known Kosovo Albanian leader, and tapped into the growing arms supply to form self-defense squads under the rebel banner.

"People told us, 'Lead this effort, or we'll find someone else,'" said Xhemal Binaku, an activist of Rugova's party in the village of Glogovac.

While denying its existence for months, Rugova has watched the rebel army undermine his authority. Recently he said the rebels exist but lack popular support. Then he shifted again, calling them "ordinary citizens who are defending their homes" but need to be "brought under control."

But the secretive guerrilla leadership is trying to assert its own authority over the independence movement. Recent communiques attributed to the rebels have criticized "political pluralism" in wartime Kosovo as "unnecessary" and warned that any negotiating by civilians without their partici-

pation will invite "punitive measures."

The United States and European nations support peace talks between Rugova and Milosevic, but the rebels are not enthusiastic. At a busy diner in Malisevo, the largest town under rebel control, three Albanian fighters kept chatting over lunch during a televised offer from Milosevic to resume the talks; they didn't even look up at the screen.

Cynicism over Milosevic's undeclared war also runs deep on the Serbian side, which has already lost Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina since 1991. Critics suspect that Milosevic knows that Kosovo, too, is lost and is looking for the exit that would least hurt his waning authority.

"His policy is neither courage nor madness," Aleksandar Tjanic, Milosevic's former minister of information, wrote in the Belgrade newspaper *Dnevni Telegraph*. "His plan for Kosovo is to have so many coffins brought back to disgust the Serbs and make them beg him to hand it to the Albanians."

(The Los Angeles Times)

AGENDA

Continued from Page 1

Three weeks ago, I met Weizman at the cornerstone-laying ceremony for the Begin Heritage Institute in Jerusalem. His director-general and confidante, Arye Shumer, was wandering among the journalists and promising, with utmost certainty, that there would be new elections in November.

After the ceremony, Weizman returned to Beit Hanassi to meet Labor Party leader Ehud Barak. The two discussed advancing the elections and afterwards establishing a national unity government. Barak, like Weizman, believes a national unity government would have an easier time coming to a final-status agreement with the Palestinians.

A week ago, he met a group of Labor MKs led by Yossi Beilin. Even though he expressed deep disappointment with the lack of progress on the diplomatic front, he still spoke about giving the prime minister a safety net in the Knesset to enable him to carry out the redeployment. That same day, he refused to appear at the economic conference in Zichron Ya'acov because of the stalemate in the peace process.

All through this period, Weizman was speaking - at Netanyahu's behest - to Yasser Arafat, Hosni Mubarak, King Hussein, Dennis Ross and Martin Indyk.

But the regular breakfast meetings over olives and *zatar* with the prime minister became less and less frequent, until they basically stopped. He heard about the referendum proposal on the radio. That's also how he heard about the plan to expand Jerusalem's municipal boundaries. At the beginning of the week, he had had enough. He felt as if Netanyahu was putting one over on him. That's how the national agenda

came to be dominated by Weizman's flushed face, and the idea brewing in his office about advancing the elections.

And who doesn't love that face? A member of Israel's "nobility." One of the founders of the IAF. The nephew of the brother-in-law of the man who, together with his wife, Reuma, accompanied the Jewish people throughout its renewal on its land, in its joys, triumphs, and battles, and through his own personal tragedy. Above the people and yet one of the people. Who everyone loves and who exhibits love for everyone.

Despite all this, one has to admit that there are two sides to Ezer. Like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, if you will. He was the pilot who coined the phrase "the best will be pilots," but who also came up with "the best (women) will be for the pilots."

The one who demonstrated confidence and shored up the IDF command when Yitzhak Rabin collapsed during the Six Day War, but who then revealed Rabin's weakness to all when they had disagreements and became political rivals.

He was the one who strengthened Begin's hand at Camp David, but then spit in his face right after, and lost the chance to lead the Likud. The one who called to obey the law, but when the law didn't live with the way he saw things, he did what he wanted - for example, when he met members of the PLO when it was still illegal to do so.

He created Ahmed Tibi. He encouraged Tibi's meeting with members of the Left, and then shrank from him in disgust when he understood his tricks. This was the man that pursued Menzies vigorously, but then made the whole world laugh by referring to its leader as an old hag who couldn't remember the last time she'd been laid.

Ezer is the same Ezer who will grit his teeth in the battle against

road accidents but then get angry at the air force commander for forbidding him to fly a jet plane because of age restrictions. And Ezer, who would want to be remembered as the father of the "flying Hebrews," won't just reden with anger, he'll boycott his beloved air force's 50th anniversary celebration.

Ezer will be Ezer, whether Netanyahu answers his phone calls

Caesarea. The US Embassy advised the official not to accept the invitation - because of the president's public stands at the time, it was felt such a visit would anger then-premier Rabin.

During those years, immediately after the Oslo process began, the president's office tried several times to arrange for the Weizman to make an official visit to the US, but the efforts were in vain. One

The media is being unfair when it portrays Ezer Weizman as undermining the prime minister. Ezer is not really subversive; he just gets angry a lot.

He's a little spoiled. He's no great democrat. He's egocentric.

There is no doubt that today, that American official would have visited Weizman in Caesarea. It is no coincidence that someone who was almost a persona non grata in



Happier days: President Ezer Weizman toasts Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on the latter's talking office.

(Efrain Kishchok)

or Shumer is told he's sleeping.

The American Angle

In the summer of 1995, a senior US administration official arrived for a private visit to Israel and Jordan. Weizman, who then was one of the biggest critics of Oslo and of the government's

contempt for the feelings of the settlers, asked to speak to the visitor and share his concerns with him.

He invited the official and his family to visit him in his home in

time Clinton was too busy, one time it was too close to a visit by Rabin, another time it was too close to meetings that had been scheduled with other regional leaders.

But after the 1996 elections, Weizman gradually became Washington's darling.

First as a pipeline to Netanyahu. Then as a confidante of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. And then as a guest and close friend of President Clinton in the White House.

Washington should now be adopted by the administration.

The Israeli government should, perhaps, accept the fact that the pressure from the US will be indirect. That the administration will use the European Union, the UN, and even the internal opposition to try to sway public opinion in Israel. These games are almost legitimate, especially when one considers that the government's hands aren't totally clean, either, given the way it takes advantage of its influence

on Capitol Hill.

But dealing with pressure from Beit Hanassi is a lot more complicated, especially when dealing with the beloved Jekyll-Hyde figure of Ezer Weizman.

The Palestinian perspective

On Monday afternoon, I arrived at the Erez checkpoint. I wanted to visit Gaza to ascertain how the Palestinians were reacting to the return of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, and to what degree the stalled peace process was bothering them. To hear how they view future relations with Israel, and whether they, too, have any criticism of Yasser Arafat's stubbornness.

Immediately upon crossing to the Palestinian side, I felt a change. On previous visits, the Palestinian Police had made me leave my car on the Israeli side and proceed into Gaza by Palestinian taxi, but this time they refused to let us in without an escort. "Who do you want to see?" asked the officer.

"We want to walk around the city," we ventured.

"You can't go around alone. It's dangerous. There is information about plans to attack Israelis," the officer said.

In the end, a member of the city council, Maher Rais, came in his car to pick us up. He was asked to sign for us, as if he was removing an item from inventory. When we left, he accompanied us to the gate, and the officer signed that he had received us back in one piece.

Perhaps that's the best indication of the way the winds are blowing in Gaza. During the five hours we spent with our host, we were also joined by his brother, a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council and until recently a deputy to Abu Ala. They blamed the stalled peace process entirely on Netanyahu. He hasn't done this. He hasn't conceded that. He's responsible for the negative atmosphere. He, he,

he. Even when we tried to ask "And what about you?" they continued to blame the Israeli side.

It's clear that they've been encouraged by the support of the Europeans, by the criticism of the Americans, by the Israeli opposition - and of course - by Weizman's remarks. They have hardly any understanding of the heavy feeling in the pit of the Israeli stomach regarding their unfulfilled commitments. They don't understand why we expect them to change their nonsensical school curriculum or stop their uncompromising rhetoric.

They want peace on their terms. "What more can we give you?" they ask. "You have everything."

Arafat must present his new cabinet soon. It would be the first time an Arab government has been forced to replace its cabinet under a threat of no-confidence from its parliament. Maher Rais is rumored to be a candidate for justice minister.

Someone at the checkpoint said: "Arafat has barely changed clothes twice in his life. Do you really think he could replace his cabinet in two weeks?" Who can know if the next cabinet will be more or less committed to Oslo?

It is easier for them to analyze the differences between Aryeh Deri and Minister Yitzhak Levy and between Yossi Sarid and Shulamit Aloni. They listen to the radio and watch television. Arafat's cronies are less well-known.

There were some positive signs. In the city you can hardly feel young women with uncovered heads, in the evening the streets are almost like Dizengoff, and the women are dressed stylishly. But at the beach there is still no mixed swimming. Only at the closed "Seagulls" club do men and women mix together in bathing suits at the pool.

What does Ezer say about this?

Northern Ireland assembly holds first session

By MARTIN COWLEY

BELFAST (Reuters) — Northern Ireland's first parliament in almost a quarter of a century held its inaugural session yesterday, marking another milestone on the province's long, troubled road to peace.

Lord John Alderdice of the cross-party Alliance Party chaired the first meeting of the 108-strong assembly, which is one of the main building blocks of a historic peace deal aimed at ending 30 years of bloody conflict in the British-ruled province.

A shirt-sleeved Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, took his seat in the east Belfast chamber opposite arch Protestant foe Ian Paisley.

Other members of the assembly include convicted IRA bomber Gerry Kelly and two former Protestant guerrillas who fought the IRA for years before turning to politics — David Ervine and Billy Hutchinson.

One of the assembly's first tasks will be to elect a First Minister, who is likely to be David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, the main party representing Northern Ireland's pro-British Protestant majority and the largest group in the new forum.

His deputy is set to be Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Catholic Social Democratic and Labour party (SDLP), the second-strongest party in the assembly.

SDLP leader John Hume said earlier he was not putting his name

forward for the position, citing a heavy workload as a British and European legislator, and nominated Mallon instead.

Together they will head a 12-member executive with full legislative and executive authority in the fields of education, agriculture, economic development, environment, finance, health and social security.

The assembly, which gives Northern Ireland its first measure of home-rule since 1974, will also be charged with forging closer relations with the neighboring Irish republic.

Politicians said that after the preliminary formalities were completed they might also hold a debate on a contentious ban that has been imposed on Protestant marchers barring them from a sensitive Catholic neighborhood on Sunday.

The province was thrown into turmoil when similar marches set off riots in previous years.

"Orangemen" say they will defy the ban, triggering worries of a new conflict and deepening sectarianism.

Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), supports their right to march and has urged all sides to be peaceful.

Protestants say that Catholic protests mask a conspiracy by Sinn Féin to erode their British identity.

Catholics say such parades, which commemorate ancient battle victories over the native Irish, are intimidatory.

Trimble said he would take advice from Orange leaders on

whether he would attend the Portadown march, following threats from loyalist hardliners.

"Unfortunately there are elements on the loyalist side, not the Orange side, who have uttered threats against me too, and it may be that my presence would provoke violence among loyalists," he told BBC radio.

Trimble was viewed as a staunch defender of British links when he became head of the UUP in 1995 but hardline critics accuse him of being a liberal because he supported the accord.

The IRA and Protestant loyalist guerrillas are operating truces after three decades of conflict.

Facing wrath from unionists who fear he will soften his line and sit alongside Sinn Féin in a cabinet while the IRA is still armed, Trimble called on republicans to state that violence was over for good.

"I hope the republican movement will make it very clear both in Garvaghy Road and in Northern Ireland as a whole that they are going to cease this campaign, that they are going to make sure that the threat of violence is no longer part of public life." Garvaghy Road is the predominantly Catholic enclave where the "Orangemen" want to march.

Sinn Féin denies orchestrating Catholic protests.

Adams said: "I will go anywhere to meet with any Orange leader, to meet with the leader of the Ulster Unionist Party...to try to make sure that we have a calm and peaceful July."



Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness, with Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams looking on, signs a copy of the Northern Ireland Peace Agreement, before entering the New Northern Ireland Assembly yesterday in Castle Buildings, Belfast, on the assembly's first day. (AP)

Hong Kong protesters call for Chinese President Jiang to resign

By KAREN RICHARDSON

HONG KONG (Reuters) — Dozens of protesters yesterday called for visiting Chinese President Jiang Zemin to quit and condemned Beijing's communist leadership for the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre.

Protesters in two separate demonstrations near the site where Jiang will attend a dinner banquet carried banners saying "Release Dissidents," "Stop the Beijing Butchers of 1989" and "Overturn the June 4 Verdict."

About 20 protesters from the April Fifth group faced off against about 60 policemen and set fire to a makeshift coffin, which the

group said symbolized the "immortal spirit of the heroes who died in the June 4 massacre."

The Chinese army crushed pro-democracy demonstrators around Beijing's Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989, killing hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people.

Jiang is visiting Hong Kong for celebrations marking the first anniversary since Britain returned the territory of 6.6 million people to China, ending 156 years of colonial rule.

Hong Kong's small but determined pro-democracy camp has seized on the occasion to press its demands for democracy in mainland China and the release of political prisoners.

"We came here to demand Jiang quit for his responsibility in the June 4 massacre and also demand the Chinese government end its one-party dictatorship and let the Chinese people have an election based on one person, one vote," said Leung Kwok-Hung, a spokesman for several pro-democracy protest groups.

At a news conference with US President Bill Clinton in Beijing last week, Jiang again defended the Chinese government's decision to send in the army in 1989. He said the action was necessary to preserve stability in the country.

In the other demonstration, organized by the Hong Kong

alliance, about 35 people chanted and called for dissidents to be freed.

Police tried to keep the two groups apart, and reporters saw one woman detained and carried off by four police officers. She was later released.

At the Hong Kong alliance demonstration, four protesters wore dark frocks bearing the images of dissidents they wanted freed.

Other protesters held aloft a huge black banner with three tanks and a lone man trying to block their way near Tiananmen Square in 1989.

It bore the slogan: "The people will not forget."

Russia calls US missile firing in Iraq 'annoying'

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Moscow expressed "annoyance" yesterday at an incident in which a US jet fired a missile in Iraq and said it should not be allowed to damage improved cooperation between Baghdad and the United Nations.

A Foreign Ministry statement said Moscow was concerned by what had happened and repeated an earlier call for restraint from both sides. "The incident is all the more annoying since it took place amid signs of an improving situation concerning Iraq since the signing in February of a memorandum of cooperation between the UN and Baghdad," the statement said.

"We call on all sides to exercise restraint, to refrain from any steps which could complicate the situation and cancel those real positive results which have been worked out recently in fulfilling the international community's resolutions on Iraq," it noted. US officials had said the jet had fired at an anti-aircraft site after Iraqi radar had locked onto an accompanying British plane, while Iraq had denied targeting any plane and had accused the US jet of firing at a civilian site.

Moscow, which has a history of good ties with Iraq, led calls for a diplomatic solution during a standoff between UN weapons

inspectors and Baghdad which preceded the February deal, and opposed US-led threats of military strikes on the country.

Russia hopes to develop commercial relations with Iraq once sweeping UN sanctions imposed after the 1990 invasion of Kuwait are lifted.

"We see no basis or reason for the situation to be aggravated," the Foreign Ministry said.

Meanwhile, Iraq's official media yesterday condemned the missile attack and called on the UN Security Council to roll back two no-fly zones.

The government newspaper Al-Jumhuriya refuted a statement by US military officials that a US F-16 warplane fired a missile at Iraqi air defenses on Tuesday after an anti-aircraft battery locked its radar onto a British plane patrolling a no-fly zone.

"This is a lie which has been exposed when it was found out later that the targeted site was a civilian water reservoir," the newspaper said in an editorial. "The shelling of the reservoir proves that the United States and Britain have aggressive intentions."

The paper called on the Security Council to condemn the attack and abolish two no-fly zones imposed by the United States and its allies after the 1991 Gulf War to prevent

Baghdad from launching attacks against Moslem Shi'ites in the South and Kurds in the North.

Iraq has been banned from using all aircraft, including helicopters, in the air exclusion zones.

"We expect the Security Council not only to denounce the attack but to cancel the two fly-zones and prevent the US and Britain from committing more violations of Iraq's sovereignty," Jumhuriya said.

In a front page headline, the ruling Baath party newspaper called the missile attack "flagrant American aggression against Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Iraq denied its radar had targeted any of the 10 planes flying the routine mission near the southern port of Basra and said the High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missile (HARM) missile failed to hit any anti-aircraft defenses.

An Iraqi government official said on Tuesday the US attack was "an aggression and unjustifiable action" that might lead to a new all-out assault against Iraq.

"If yesterday's aggression is meant to prepare the ground for a larger aggression, the Security Council should give [Iraq] guarantees that no more aggression would happen," Jumhuriya said.

Diana museum delights first tourists

By JILL SERJEANT

ALTHORP HOUSE (Reuters) — They came in their hundreds, bearing flowers and cards to pay tribute to Princess Diana on her birthday, and eager to see her childhood home and final resting place.

Althorp House, the Spencer family's rural estate, flung open its gates yesterday to welcome Diana fans and curious onlookers to a new museum and a first glimpse of the island on which she is buried.

Diana's brother, Earl Charles Spencer, greeted the visitors with smiles and posed for photographs in the grounds of the house which cynics "have slammed as 'Dianaville'" but which the first

delighted tourists called tasteful and dignified.

"It is wonderful. It is the right place for her. I can feel she is here. There is a fantastic feeling of peace," said Susan Shepherd who came with her 11-year-old daughter.

Inside the grounds of the stately home in central England, a Diana museum — the first and so far only memorial to the "People's Princess" — celebrates her life with exhibitions of her toys, clothes, her romantic 1981 wedding dress and poignant films of a carefree child dancing in the gardens, and later on a funfair ride with sons William and Harry.

In a temple by the side of the island lake where Diana lays at rest, flowers and written tributes

filled up through the day as they had done outside Kensington Palace and the then locked gates of Althorp House last September.

"It was very tasteful, well put together and very moving," said 33-year-old Susan McNulty. "People were quiet and reflective," she said, adding that it was well worth the £9.50 (NIS 60) entrance fee.

From the early school reports to moving footage of her funeral, the museum traced the life of the girl who became a princess and touched the hearts of millions with her unique blend of glamor, compassion and love-hate relationship with the media who pursued her until death.

But the men in her life were

notable only for their absence.

Visitors said the museum made no mention of Dodi al Fayed — the man who died with her in the Paris car crash and who appeared to have won her heart in the last two months of her life.

Prince Charles, her estranged husband, plays only a walk-on role and Diana's former lover James Hewitt is not referred to at all.

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Writers' dismissals further blur fact-fiction border

50% of Americans believe news reporting is often inaccurate

By JOSH GETLIN

NEW YORK — Truth may be stranger than fiction, but some reporters are finding it hard to keep them separate. With public distrust of the media running unusually high, journalists have been dismayed by recent disclosures that a columnist and a young writer at two respected publications had made up stories — using fictitious people, phony settings and fabricated quotes.

The swift firings of *Boston Globe* columnist Patricia Smith and *New Republic* reporter Stephen Glass served as reminders that such fakery is unacceptable in a business that prides itself on credibility.

For some, the cases were aberrations; but for others, they were grim confirmation that a disturbing cultural trend in America — the blurring of lines between fact and fiction — may be shadowing the news business. And given the mounting pressures on journalists to "entertain," some experts fear that fictionalization of the news may become more common.

"The confusion of fact and fiction is turning journalism news into entertainment," charges columnist and author Richard

Reeves. "And you saw proof of that in the *Boston Globe* and *New Republic* stories.... You saw writers feeling they had to juice up their stories to make them more interesting to readers."

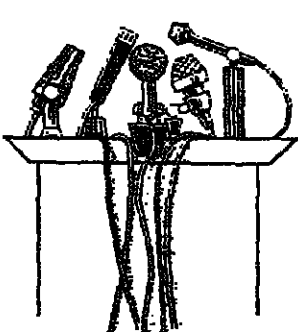
Further evidence, according to some observers, comes in the controversy over a story broadcast on CNN and then published in *Time* magazine about a US military operation that allegedly used deadly nerve gas in Laos during the Vietnam War. Amid charges that the story was hyped and inaccurate, both news organizations announced last week that they had retained Floyd Abrams, a respected First Amendment lawyer, to investigate how the story was reported.

"This confusion (about fact and fiction) is a problem," says Tom Goldstein, dean of the Columbia School of Journalism. "Some newspapers today value writing more than reporting. You don't hear people saying now that someone is a hell of a fact-finder. You hear: 'That person is a hell of a writer.' And to be a writer in this culture sometimes means shading the truth. This is a world, after all, where consumers are hard-pressed to tell the difference between the truth or fiction of movies like *JFK*, TV news — re-

enactments" of car crashes that never took place, so-called "non-fiction novels" that bend the truth, fictitious memoirs and the like.

None of this is particularly new: Some trace it back to Truman Capote's influential *In Cold Blood* and the so-called *New Journalism* of the 1960s, which blended nonfiction narrative with colorful, fiction-writing techniques. Writers like Tom Wolfe built their careers on such writing, and although many newspapers made a point of discouraging *New Journalism* in the '70s and '80s, it has permeated the culture at large.

"The best journalism often reads like a novel, and it's hard to tell truth from fiction sometimes," says David Rosenblatt, who heads Simon & Schuster's trade-book division. "Telling the truth remains important, but the way you tell it has broadened, and that's not necessarily a bad thing." It all depends on how much you're willing to believe. Oliver Stone's *JFK* may have been only partially factual, but it didn't hurt him at the box office. Kathryn Harrison's *The Kiss*, a best-selling memoir of incest, sparked charges from some critics that she had made up the



Media Update

story. Joe McGuinness's biography of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., was filled with intimate conversations the author couldn't possibly have witnessed.

"The pressure to make stories about the real seem perfectly packaged and seamless is there," says Jay Rosen, a journalism professor at New York University. "If anything contributes to these (Smith and Glass) incidents, it's the rising expectation of the juicy quote, the colorful character, the copy that sparkles because of tough competition with other media." To be sure, Rosen and other experts note that these recent incidents are the exception

rather than the rule. "I wouldn't go overboard on this," says Ed Guthman, University of Southern California journalism professor and a former *Philadelphia Inquirer* editor. "There have always been some reporters who did this (invented material) and I think it says a lot more about human nature than anything else."

But others worry about the prevailing winds. The media continue to take a beating over its use of anonymous sources in the Monica S. Lewinsky story. And this week, the *Cincinnati Enquirer* published an apology, saying it would pay Chiquita Brands International Inc. \$10 million for critical articles partially based on stolen voicemail information.

Indeed, a 1997 poll showed that 56 percent of Americans believe news reporting is often inaccurate. The numbers, compiled by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, were up more than 20 percentage points from a similar poll in 1985.

"We don't live in a particularly righteous or moral culture," says Matt Storr, the *Globe* editor who terminated Smith. "And all of these things... contribute to a

blurred line of morality." In Boston, Smith had earned a reputation for tough, incisive reporting. She covered the black community and a host of other issues with flair, and her lively human interest columns made her a finalist for this year's Pulitzer Prize in commentary.

But she ran afoul of a fact-checking system the newspaper instituted several years ago. To guard against writers inventing sources or making up quotes, editors would periodically check each columnist's work for accuracy.

During a recent audit, editors could not verify the accuracy of six columns Smith wrote. They confronted her and, when she admitted that material in four columns had been invented, they fired her. It was a painful episode for the paper, and Smith's comments in a farewell column were telling.

"Why did she do it? I wanted the pieces to jolt, to be talked about, to leave the reader indelibly impressed. And sometimes, as a result of trying to do too much at once and cutting corners, they didn't. So I tweaked them to make sure they did. It didn't happen often, but it happened. And if it had happened only once, that was one time too many."

In one case, Smith invented a cancer victim filled with hope and anxiety over news of potential cures. The woman delivered a powerful quote, also made up. It would have been easy for Smith, a seasoned reporter, to find real people and quote them accurately. But she didn't want reality; she wanted impact.

The former columnist, who is also a respected poet and performance artist, "should go back to poetry," says Tom Rosenstiel, director of the Project on Excellence in Journalism, administered by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

"I see a connection between the Patricia Smith case and L.A. news directors putting a freeway shoot-out on television," he adds. "In both, you turn nonfiction into entertainment."

A year before he died, Random House editor Joe Fox was talking about his lengthy affiliation with Truman Capote. Asked his opinion of *Hand Carved Coffins*, the mesmerizing nonfiction account of a murder case that Capote wrote after *In Cold Blood*, Fox laughed heartily.

"I thought it was brilliant, some of the best writing that Truman did," he said. "And I didn't believe a word of it."

(The Los Angeles Times)

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000
Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527, CIRCULATION—02-531-5610, 177-022-2278, Fax 02-538-9017, ADVERTISING—02-531-5608, 02-531-5638-40 Fax 02-538-9408, TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hanagers, P.O.B. 28298 (61283) Telephone 03-6393333, Fax 03-6392277. Published daily except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Jerusalem Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1998. Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, or in any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BENDER, 1975-1989 ARI RATCH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS, 1992-1996 DAVID BAR-ILLAN
INTERNET EDITION: <http://www.jpost.co.il> General E-mail: jpost@jpost.co.il Editorial E-mail: edit@jpost.co.il
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Defeating prejudice and inertia

By and large, Israel has reason to be proud of its human rights record in the face of the tremendous stresses of the past 50 years. Even now, the country's security needs present moral dilemmas that few democracies have had to face. But we are no longer such a young nation or so besieged that improving our record can be set aside for another day. A just-released report by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel shows that some progress is being made, but that there is much to be done.

The report, titled "Human Rights in Israel - 1998," focuses much of its attention on the status of the country's Arab sector. According to ACRI, "discrimination against the Arab public exists in all spheres, but is particularly acute in education and with regard to living conditions." It is well known that, while the Arabs within Israel are better off economically than in the Palestinian areas, or in neighboring Arab countries, socioeconomic gaps between Israeli Arabs and the rest of the population remain large.

The budgetary gaps are nothing new, but according to ACRI, they have worsened under the current government. Some analysts point to the fact that in the cabinet announcement of changes in the "national priority" map last February, there were no Arab towns among the 28 that were upgraded, while 14 of the 34 towns that lost their priority status were Arab towns. Given the decades of neglect in this sphere, equalizing budgetary allocations for the Arab sector is the bare minimum necessary, and probably not enough to correct past discrimination in a reasonable time frame.

Another, even more politically sensitive issue is that of equal rights for Arabs in the realm of land ownership. The report notes that ACRI has petitioned the High Court of Justice on behalf of an Israeli Arab family that sought to purchase land to build a home in Katzir in the Galilee, and was told they could not buy the land because they are Arabs.

Supreme Court President Aharon Barak commented regarding this case that it is one of the most difficult he has come across in his legal career. Perhaps the difficulty to which he was referring is that Israel has, since its founding, used this or that legal subterfuge to discriminate between different communities' access to land ownership. It is one thing to protect against foreigners, perhaps from Arab countries, buying land here. Israel cannot, however, countenance preventing Israeli Arabs, who are supposed to

be equal citizens before the law, from buying land, particularly when the right of Jews to buy land in "Arab" areas is vigorously upheld.

Another matter concerning the rights of Israeli Arabs is that of language. Arabic is one of Israel's official languages, but the obligation of government authorities to publish information in Arabic is routinely ignored. Egged does not post schedule information for its buses in Arabic, many road signs do not include Arabic, and until ACRI petitioned the Ministry of Transportation, driving tests could not be taken in Arabic.

The lack of Arabic signs, labels, and official documents may be a serious inconvenience, but discrimination by individuals and businesses can be even more detrimental. The ACRI report notes that there is no law against discrimination in the provision of services, renting or buying apartments, or entrance to public places of entertainment. A poll taken in December 1997 found that 60 percent of the population would not rent an apartment to Arabs, one third would not rent to haredim, and 40 percent would not rent to homosexuals. Though legal remedies alone cannot change societal attitudes, it is encouraging that the Justice Ministry has expressed its willingness to work with ACRI in drafting a government-sponsored bill prohibiting such discrimination in sales, services, and facilities open to the public.

The government should also be credited for passing the Freedom of Information Law - another long-overdue measure that is on the books in many democratic countries. By ruling that the government's information belongs to the people and must be released to it - barring certain limited exceptions - the new law could revolutionize the public-government relationship, including in the sphere of civil rights.

It is understandable that the ACRI report focuses on all the work that is yet to be done, rather than on the progress that has been made. In one area, the report is ahead of its time, in that it calls for an end to the use of "physical pressure" by the security services in interrogations. This stance should be examined more carefully, since in no democratic country have the courts struggled so extensively to balance the potential saving of innocent life with the rights of suspected terrorists. While this is an example where Israel's security situation can force compromises with democratic ideals, in many other areas the obstacles to change are simple prejudice and inertia, and must be overcome.



OLEK 98

Saddam's deceit

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

In their lighter moments, American, British and Israeli intelligence operatives say, "Saddam Hussein has illusions that he can fool all of us, all of the time."

The decision that Saddam must be made to understand just how far he can go led the US to send an air force F-15 jet to fire a rocket at a radar battery two days ago, while on patrol in a flight-exclusion zone in the southern area of Iraq.

The allied aerial scanning of Iraq has been a source of deep irritation to Saddam Hussein. One little-known reason for such surveillance is the intelligence needed to find traces of what is known in the West as Saddam Hussein's "Phantom Caravan."

This is not one of those long distance treks made by camels in ancient times for trading purposes. Rather, it is a key element in Saddam's attempt to fool the world about his real bellicose intentions. It is made up of highly camouflaged heavy vehicles which move ceaselessly from one part of Iraq to another like thieves in the night. They use ravines, and forest to conceal themselves from US satellites and other electronic devices hidden in different parts of the country.

The vehicles carry secrets of Saddam's chemical, biological and nuclear warfare activities, where these stocks of deadly weapons are hidden and where, when and how this sophisticated hoard can be used against Iraq's enemies.

The existence of this vast, sophisticated network was virtually unknown to Western intelligence agencies until Saddam Hussein's son-in-law, General Hussein Kamel, sought refuge in Jordan and revealed details of the Iraqi intent to prepare for war

deceit of the Iraqi dictator and his determination to go to war again against his neighbors, and the entire Middle East.

The news that Iraq's still had stocks of this weapon hidden was deliberately leaked to the US media because of deep frustration in Washington as Russian, French, Italian and other countries were pressing hard to persuade the compliant UN, under the prompting of Annan, to lift all sanctions against Iraq.

The aggressive use of his radar stations against Allied planes was an effort by Saddam Hussein to show his anger about the discovery of VX program.

Saddam's deceit also raises the way that CNN, allied with Time magazine, gave credence to a report that the US used sarin gas in Laos during the Vietnam War. This report, never verified, gives much solace to Saddam, who will certainly use it to smear the US and as justification for his continued efforts to build his own stocks of poison gas.

The doubts about the report's authenticity call into question the role played by Peter Arnet when reporting the Gulf War from Baghdad. The question was this: Was it morally acceptable for him to be putting forth the Iraqi version of events when the Allies were fighting a war against Saddam Hussein?

Remember, we never heard a peep from him about the way Iraq massacred its own citizens, using outlawed gas and nerve warfare to do so. It could be compared to a British or American journalist broadcasting from Berlin during World War II without mentioning a word about Auschwitz and the Holocaust.

The US discovery of the sophisticated level of Iraq's ability to use poison gas caused considerable concern in Israeli intelligence circles. The implication was clear: Saddam Hussein could have fired them at Tel Aviv during the Gulf War. But clearly the threat - that if any such weapons were fired, Baghdad would have been destroyed - had a deterrent effect.

The US revelation about Iraq's mastery of VX gave the lie to Saddam Hussein's repeated claims that his scientists had never succeeded in mastering the techniques to use it. It was proof of the

deceit of the Iraqi dictator and his determination to go to war again against his neighbors, and the entire Middle East.

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Prophets of ignorance

DANIEL DORON

After decades of socialist misery, top European socialists, French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin and Oskar Lafontaine, chairman of the German Social Democratic Party, have finally admitted the supremacy of free market economics.

In Israel, however, assorted gurus still stubbornly peddle crypto-socialist economic nonsense. Recently, even Labor Minister Eli Yishai (Shas), blamed the recession and unemployment on "conservative economic ideology, a passing fad," which he likened to "mixing soup with flies."

Being a traditionalist, he explained, he admired "the founders of the state" who created 50% budget deficits to fight recession and unemployment. It worked then, the learned minister averred, so it should work now.

It is particularly distressing that politicians, whose constituencies have been ravaged by inflation and by discriminatory statist practices recommend inflation-causing budget deficits that never really reduce unemployment.

But maybe even as bright a scholar as minister Yishai does not grasp that economic policy, while "not being an exact science" as he rightly claims, cannot also be based on misunderstood precedents, or on a tradition of pernicious interventionism that made his ministry so regressive and harmful.

Has the minister noticed that with the unprecedented legislative power that his ministry employed in the service of the Histadrut, it has hopelessly distorted labor markets, ruined Israeli productivity (about half that of the US) and halted employment advancements, forcing talented Israeli workers to make do with an average NIS 7,500 a month, and hundreds of thousands to be unemployed or depend on supplementary income?

BUT one can hardly blame a rab-

binic scholar for misunderstanding economics, when some of our most prominent social "scientists" and public figures show a similar ignorance. The doyen of Israeli political science (not surprisingly, a distinguished Marxist scholar), Shlomo Avineri, was also director-general of the Foreign Ministry, a man of the world, that is.

Yet in 1991, after the collapse of communism, he warned Americans not to rejoice because their system, too, was deeply flawed, since free markets create severe economic and social problems. US industry "is helpless," Avineri opined, in competing with the state directed Japanese industry, which Avineri upheld as the rising model because of its "social concerns."

Avineri did not quite prophesy then, as did his colleague Prof. Ze'ev Sternhell, the final demise of America just yet, but predicted that it faced a grave economic crisis since it depended on "a war economy," no less.

When one's economic data is culled from *Time* or even *Le Monde*, and in duty-free shops where Japan was king, one is prone to make such fashionable prognostications.

But Avineri should have taken into consideration that the share of industrial goods in the US GNP keeps rising, and its capital goods exports led the world. US per capita GNP was 17% higher than in purchasing power terms than Germany's and 22% than Japan's.

Most significantly, US per capita productivity was 40% higher than Japan's, hardly a sign of decline. Moreover, even then critics of Avineri discerned that Japan was a corporatist state (similar to Israel) where interlocking elites, some criminal, were exploiting low-paid Japanese workers to amass great fortunes.

But then, what soul nostalgic for socialism would let facts spoil a prediction about putatively "socially responsible" Japan letting selfish American capitalism (that so humiliated socialism) have its comeuppance; and what self-styled expert would ever admit his errors.

It is much worse with some academicians who, upon entering politics seem to lose even the most minimal standard of reasoned argument. Many hoped that Prof. Shlomo Ben-Ami, for example, a well-known historian, one of Labor's great hopes, would raise the level of Israeli political discourse.

But lacking any concrete ideas on how to implement or even define his much touted "social concerns," Ben-Ami opted to compete with Geshet by outdoing them in populist invective. Repeatedly engaging in ad hominem attacks, Ben-Ami labels free market advocates as "fundamentalists," fanatic neoliberals, "extremist Thatcherites" (as if another kind exists in his bestiary) and "beneficiaries of prostitute's wages."

Ben-Ami even charged that there "was a direct link between the Chicago (school) of social and economic philosophy and Chicago as a symbol of gangsterism," a new nadir in public debate. The learned historian forgot that Chicago crime became so powerful when it associated with corrupt labor unions and Democratic municipal politics.

But why let facts spoil a good smear. Politicians trying to emulate Tony Blair's success may want to explain to their colleagues that Labor has no chance unless it too learns to respect economic facts.

If Blair does not seem enough of a rigorous "socialist," they could now get a similar message from their more doctrinaire mentors in France or from their German benefactors. This assuming, of course, that they really want to learn, and not wait for Israel to reform after Albania.

The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

Excuses, excuses, excuses

Have you heard the latest one? Binyamin Netanyahu is against the idea of early elections in Israel because the Palestinians are the ones who are delaying the peace process.

As absurd as it sounds, this is what is happening in the Middle East peace process. The entire world, half of Israel, even the president of the state are asking, cajoling, begging, demanding that the prime minister of Israel fulfill the commitments the state of Israel and his government made in the Oslo I, Oslo II and the Hebron Agreement, but to no avail.

A quick review at the last year and a half of the Netanyahu administration reveals a long list of excuses, acts of procrastination and outright broken promises made to the public, to the leaders of the region, to the cosponsors and to practically any world leader who has come to the area trying to move the process ahead.

To begin with, Netanyahu used last August's suicide bombing as an excuse not to carry out the first redeployment.

At that time Israel decided on a minuscule redeployment of a couple of percentage points. But when two Hamas suicide bombers decided to take their lives and the lives of innocent Israelis in a west Jerusalem market, the Israeli prime minister refused to go ahead with this redeployment, saying that Israel can't turn over lands to the Palestinian Authority when "terrorists" can use these lands to carry out attacks against Israelis.

Incidentally, the suicide bombers had come from areas under the Israeli security control.

THE difference in reactions between the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and that of Netanyahu after suicide bomb-

The entire world, half of Israel - even the president - are begging Netanyahu to fulfill Israel's commitments, but to no avail

ings is interesting.

Rabin would get on national television and say something to the effect of: We have a week of mourning for the dead and on the eighth day we will go back to negotiations with the Palestinians because the aim of the terrorists was to derail the negotiations.

Netanyahu, on the other hand, used the bombings as an excuse not to carry out agreements, and put all the blame on the PA for not being able to stop the bombings.

This excuse not to return occupied land to its rightful owners has many variations. Palestinians are constantly blamed for not carrying out their part of the agreement by not cracking down hard on terrorism. Everyone knows that no government can eradicate terrorism; the Israeli army wasn't and isn't able to, the British, French, Spanish, Saudis, Americans, Egyptians and others are not able to, yet the Palestinian Authority is expected to have better luck than all of these well-equipped and politically and economically stable governments.

Reciprocity sounds like a nice excuse but has proven to be counterproductive unless you understand the word in Netanyahu's crooked way. Curtailing the size of the Palestinian police became an Israeli demand although it was hard to reconcile this request with the need to control terrorism.

The prime minister's senior aide, David Bar-Ilan, used the decision by the Arab League to hold a summit as another excuse. He called it a violation of the PLO-Israeli agreement and he threatened to stop the peace process if the summit was held, because it was a unilateral act that influenced the outcome of the final status talks.

A request by Arab countries at the UN to raise the level of the Palestinian delegation created yet another perfect excuse for Israel not to carry out the redeployment.

As a joke, someone suggested that a referendum would be a great excuse to delay a decision. This was good, until people started checking out what it would cost and what it would mean.

Mrs. Clinton became the perfect scapegoat when she made the cardinal sin of saying to a group of Arab and Jewish children that she would like to see the state of Palestine gain independence in the future.

We are sick of excuses; we need action. Mr. Netanyahu, for once in your life stop thinking of how to make excuses. Act for peace for once.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NETANYAHU IS RIGHT

Sir, - It is amazing that so many of our political leaders can criticize Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on the current deadlock of the peace process.

The deadlock in the peace process is due to the failure of the parties to reach an agreement. Can the critics really think that this failure is due solely to our government's intransigence? Are they all buying the lines of Yasser Arafat, Hosni Mubarak and King Hussein?

Are they privy to and do they even know the details of the status of the agreement? Yet they continue to criticize and call for the removal of the government and for new elections. Very few voices are heard in support of the government in this delicate stage of negotiations.

Don't the people realize that a hasty capitulation to Arab demands can endanger the future of the State of Israel? It is vital that Israel receive some tangible benefits for turning over land to the Palestinians.

So far, there have been few, if any, benefits received by Israel from the Oslo Accords. Yes, Israel is becoming isolated due to the incredibly biased world media campaign for the Arabs, and the economy has slowed substantially. But should the government sell out the security of the country for some momentary pats on the back by the world leaders? I think not. Netanyahu should be commended for standing fast against tremendous pressures and holding out for full reciprocity with the Palestinians.

ALLAN MORRIS

Tel Aviv.

PLO COVENANT

Sir, - It is perfectly clear from reading Evelyn Gordon's article, "Arafat's legal fraud" (June 23), that the PLO Covenant calling for Israel's destruction has not been amended.

How can anyone interested in making peace with the Arabs think otherwise? Isn't it strange that those Israelis so eager to make concessions to Yasser Arafat are not demanding that the PLO and the Palestine National Council first revoke its covenant?

I wonder what the reaction of President Clinton, Secretary Albright, the international community, and the United Nations would be if Israel had a similar covenant calling for the destruction of the Arabs?

MOISHE RUBIN

Beersheba.

REGEV'S ARGUMENT

Sir, - The most cogent argument against non-Orthodox conversion was offered by Uri Regev "The truth about conversion" (May 29), when he states that "those converting today do not choose to undertake an observant mode of life, and are motivated sometimes by the desire to marry."

It is axiomatic that a potential convert who does not accept Halacha is opting to distort Judaism to fit his needs.

Could one convert to Catholicism, yet reject the trinity?

L. BEAME

Jerusalem.

WHITWASH

Sir, - It was good to learn (June 17) that the reports of State Department spokesman James Rubin referring to the debate over changing the PLO Covenant as "Talmudic" were inaccurate.

Almost equally disturbing, however, was what Rubin did actually say about the covenant. After a reporter made the "Talmudic" remark, Rubin replied that "when Chairman Arafat was here, we released a letter that he had provided to President Clinton. We said that this was a step in the right direction and that further efforts should be discussed between the two parties. That is still our view."

Rubin is wrong, there is nothing in the Oslo Accords about the "two parties" discussing the covenant issue. It is a matter for implementation, not discussion. Why does the State Department insist on whitewashing Arafat's behavior?

HERBERT ZWIBON

Chairman, Americans For a Safe Israel

New York.

ETHIOPIA'S JEWS

Sir, - Since we are not only morally obliged to help a person in danger, but legally obliged - according to the bill passed recently by the Knesset, saving Ethiopia's Jews is both a moral and a legal must.

PROF.

MARGE E. LANDSBERG

Haifa.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On July 2, 1933, The Palestine Post reported an address made by Dr. Chaim Weizmann in New York in which he expressed the hope that while the Hebrew University in Jerusalem couldn't offer Professor Albert Einstein the same facilities as Madrid,

Paris or Oxford, it could provide him with pencil and paper, which is all he would require to give up wandering all over the world and decide to come to Palestine.

50 years ago: On July 2, 1948, The Palestine Post reported on the so-called "ten point plan"

proposed by Count Bernadotte to the Jews and Arabs. The Arab League rejected the proposals, adding that they also declined an invitation to send representatives to Rhodes for further talks with a mediator.

Alexander Zvielli

سكس مائة

Weekender

Paralyzed Superman still rescuing people



Christopher Reeve receiving an honorary doctorate at Pace University in May. (AP)

By JIM FITZGERALD

Christopher Reeve is on the speakerphone, talking patiently but firmly to a 24-year-old athlete partially paralyzed in a recent trampoline fall. The young man is so depressed that he's refusing to eat, and his mother has asked Reeve to intervene.

"No means is your life over," Reeve says, then pauses as a ventilator refills his lungs. "We're just a few years away from human trials on spinal cord regeneration. I want you to eat, stay fit and be strong."

Twenty minutes later, the kid is eating. "The kid I decided to eat," Reeve says.

Superman, it seems, is still rescuing people.

Three years after he fell from a horse and became a quadriplegic, the movie star who played the Man of Steel — and was a pilot, sailor and equestrian — has somehow earned that disaster into a still-active life that seems focused on helping other people.

But inevitably, there are reflections on what might have been.

"I do feel a sense of satisfaction

when I can do something like help this kid we've been talking about today or give a speech that motivates people," Reeve, 45, says in an interview at his home. "But through it all there is the longing for a return, and regret for the years that I've missed of doing things that I particularly enjoy."

Reeve is most visible these days as a champion for research into a cure for injuries such as his. His Christopher Reeve Foundation raises hundreds of thousands of dollars for the American Paralysis Association.

He believes that new nerve-regenerating treatments will be ready for human trials in a few years and that by keeping fit he could be among the first subjects. He talks confidently of one day embracing his wife again.

"I'm not going to sit in this wheelchair," he vows, his face animated above his tall, quiet body.

His paralysis certainly doesn't keep him from leaving home, a gracious, gray-shingled house in Westchester County's horse country surrounded by woods, a meadow and a neighbor's goats and chickens.

With his high-tech chair, ventilator and a couple of nurses and aides, Reeve travels regularly to accept awards and make speeches, seeking public and political support for spinal cord research.

"I consider myself a spokesman for people who can't call the president or a senator or testify before Congress," Reeve says.

When he received an honorary degree last month from Pace University in White Plains, New York, graduates stood and cheered wildly as he rolled his wheelchair onto the stage by puffing into a tube. They screamed again at the mention of *Superman*, a movie nearly as old as they are, and every time Reeve spoke of a cure for spinal-cord paralysis.

"Sometimes these events go very well," Reeve admits.

His hot-selling memoir, *Still Me*, which Reeve dictated to an assistant, has led to even more appearances. But Reeve says, "I'm easing off a little bit. Between now and the end of July I have a trip to Chicago and a trip to Philadelphia and that's it." He was not including the 10 days or so he is spending in Massachusetts this month at

the Williamstown Theater Festival, where his wife, actress Dana Reeve, is performing. Reeve is on the festival's board of directors.

"It's a little hard because I appeared on the stage there for 15 seasons and it's hard to be just an audience member," he says.

The day before Reeve left for Massachusetts, his five-year-old son, Will, gave him an early Father's Day present: a crayon portrait, with "I love you Dad" printed beneath. The boy casually climbed up the side of his father's wheelchair to plant a kiss on his cheek, then hopped off and said, "Bye, Dad."

"Bye, sweetie," Reeve replied.

The actor is wealthy enough to afford the help he needs, and counts among his greatest achievements that his family doesn't see him as a burden.

"My son goes off to school every morning in the carefree state of mind that every five- or six-year-old is entitled to," says Reeve, who has two teenage children in England from an earlier relationship. "He doesn't worry about me. My wife is free to accept a role in a play and rehearse

and perform without having to feel guilty. This is something I feel I must give. I have to set them free."

He is also intent on continuing his own career. His stardom declined after the four *Superman* movies, but he had meaty parts on Broadway and such films as *Stealth*. He also had a role in the acclaimed movie *The Remains of the Day*.

"I looked forward in my 40s to playing a greater range," he says, "and then suddenly I got sidelined by the accident. Now the list of things I can do has been so curtailed, I choose what I do very carefully."

He undertook directing, and won an Emmy nomination for the 1997 HBO drama *In the Gloaming*. Later this year, he plans to act in and direct a remake of *Rear Window*, in which the hero will be much worse off than Jimmy Stewart was with his broken leg.

"The reason I want to do *Rear Window* is because I want to show a severely disabled person as a hero in a movie," he says. "We'll all see the cutting-edge assistance technology that allows me to survive."

Wine me, dine me

By SONIE LEMON

Vino Vera Wine Bar is just the place to spend one of those long Saturday afternoons when you want to do nothing but spoil yourself.

The entrance to the bar, which is located on Jerusalem's Hillel Street, is conveniently discreet and private. Maps are posted outside the establishment, allowing passersby to check out the delicacies before entering.

If you're intrigued and walked in to find myself in what felt like someone's wine cellar. The lighting was dim — despite the early afternoon hour — jazz music was playing, and the walls were lined with pictures of real wine cellars.

I was seated at a quaint wooden table and given the six-page menu, five pages of which comprised the wine list. The house wine, Jean Belmont from the south of France, can be purchased by the glass for NIS 16 and by the bottle for NIS 45. It is available in Chardonnay, Rosé, and a variety of reds.

From there, the sky is the limit. For wine connoisseurs, a bottle of Angelo Gaja's Barbaresco can be had for a staggering NIS 1,500.

"This wine should not even be opened for the first 12 years," explains Dorit Elzevitz, the owner of Vino Vera. "The taste of a wine such as this would not reach maturity before that time."

Right now, the NIS 1,500 Italian wine is only five years old, so it is anyone's guess what it will cost once its property is aged.

For those less picky about their vino, the bar offers many moderately priced wines as well.

And unlike many of the restaurants in the area, the food is actually better than it sounds. During weekdays there are several reasonably priced business deals. For example, NIS 39 gives you a first course, main course and glass of the house wine. Considering that the house wine costs NIS 16 per glass, the deal is quite attractive.

The bar offers higher priced deals on Saturday, but even these are quite reasonable.

I chose Saturday's NIS 79 deal which included a first course of salmon in a cream and saffron sauce, served with an excellent house merlot. This was very well presented and extremely tasty, though the sauce was a bit heavy for lunch. For the main course, I had the tourmeos Rossini with the house cabernet sauvignon — a bit heavier than the merlot, but just as good. The fillet was served on a piece of toast topped by a slice of goose liver and served in a port and apple sauce. Definitely worth trying.

Despite the good food, Vino Vera is basically a wine bar and there is no obligation to have a full meal.

Vino Vera is open seven days a week, from 12:00 p.m. until at least midnight.

Vino Vera, 6 Hillel Street, Jerusalem

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Dancers on my mind

Berta Yampolsky tells about the artists and teachers who influenced her.

The Israel Ballet was founded by two young Israeli dancers, Berta Yampolsky and her husband Hillel Markman. In 1957 they went to London to study with the Royal Ballet and then proceeded to dance their way across Europe and America. While representing Switzerland as soloists in the prestigious Arts Festival in Athens, a thought came to them.



"We realized," Yampolsky reminisces, "how proud we would be to represent our own country, Israel, in such a prestigious festival — but classical dance in Israel at that time was only a dream. We decided to make the dream come true."

They returned home and established a ballet company in 1967. "We were six dancers with a small tape recorder and a zero budget. Our first performance in 1967 was on a little stage where we danced excerpts from Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet*," Yampolsky recalls.

Today the Israel Ballet is a 35-member company and Yampolsky has gained acclaim as a respected choreographer in the world of dance. Her ballets range from the lyric *Symphonic Variations* to the recently choreographed *Encore*, which is set to the march tunes of the IDF band.

gave her half our money to attend the open classes she gave in a corridor without a piano. We believed in her and she in us. Our plans were to take her to Israel with us, but she died at the age of 40 of liver cancer. In truth, she built my career."

In Yampolsky's world, art has no beginning and no end. Her interests are many, with museums and art galleries at the top of the list. She also delights in children and animals. However, her passion is dance, and she has chosen to speak about the five artists who have most influenced her life.

3. Georges Balanchine
"Balanchine was one of the genius choreographers and ballet directors of this century. At first, I did not understand his ballets. However, as I matured as a dancer, I recognized his greatness and appreciated the impact he had on my life."

There is not a ballet company in the world that does not dance his ballets. In 1981, after seeing the Israel Ballet, he told me that, in the future, we could dance any Balanchine ballet free of charge."

4. Hillel Markman
"We have been together since the age of 17. He is the one who encourages and supports me. He is a beautiful, creative dancer, yet is very controlled and has a cool head on his shoulders."

"I value his open and honest opinions, and I gain strength from his confidence and optimism. Because of Hillel, the Israel Ballet exists today."

5. Mia Slavenska
"Mia was my teacher when we came to study in New York. I was intent on finding a teacher and went to a different one every day. Then I found Mia."

"Mia was a beautiful dancer, a former prima ballerina of the Ballet Russe. Her classes, full of aspiring dancers, were given in large, airy studios and quite different from my European experience. Suddenly, I found myself in an artistically demanding class with a teacher I hardly knew, yet one who gave me a feeling of love and encouragement that I have and cherish until this day."

— Sarah Hershenson

Hot tip

By DALIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

When the heat gets to be too much, there is a decent selection of air-conditioned entertainment in Tel Aviv. Consider spending the whole weekend at the Cinema Theatre (which tends to overdo the AC), for example. Thursday night (9:30) offers the contemplative and bizarre, but brilliant film *Breaking the Waves*, a French/Danish production by Lars Von Trier. To lighten up afterwards, stick around for a midnight (actually 12:15 a.m.) showing of the cult classic *Eraserhead*.

an early sign of David Lynch's sick mind.

The madman continues with Lynch's *Lost Highway*, playing on Saturday night at 10 p.m.; and the height of twisted minds, or at least twisted metal, is reached on Sunday with the erotic, and at times truly repulsive, *Crash* — a David Cronenberg standard. James Spader and Holly Hunter give it all they've got, but it takes a strong stomach and some patience to get through this one.

At 10 p.m. The Tel Aviv Museum is another cool venue: Orna Banai performs on Saturday night with her comedy show, while her uncle, Yossi Banai, gives his Bransons performance Saturday night at the Tzavta theater.

Ethnic music is available on Thursday night: the diverse, at times mesmerizing, East-West Ensemble is featured at Inbal, starting at 8:30. Call (03) 517-3711. Comic relief is found Habimah theater tonight, with P.S. *Your Cat is Dead*. Jointly produced by Yuval Theater and Habimah, this is the story of a down-and-out actor and One of Those Days! Starts at 8:30 p.m.

Jerusalem

The cooler Jerusalem is also offering extensive entertainment to Tel Aviv defectors. Some of the more interesting theater comes to town with Cameri's latest: *The Rebels* is showing tonight at the Jerusalem Theater (Sherover Theater). This family drama is chock full of special effects and fantastic acting. Starts at 9:15 p.m.

Also at the Jerusalem Theater this evening is the one-man play, *Small Demon*, written by Dudu Dotan and directed by Rami Danon. This will be a special showing in honor of the play's 50th performance, and will be attended by both Education and Culture Minister Yitzhak Levy and the President. At 9:15 p.m., Rebecca Crown.

Spiritual contemplation takes place all day today, at a seminar on "Contemporary Idolatry: Interfaith Perspectives." The program includes international representatives of Hinduism, Islam, Christianity and Judaism. At the Ratibonne Institute, 26 Shmuel Hanagid St. 10:7:30 p.m. The Flies celebrate Buzz! This is the appropriate title of the group's recently-released first album, in

honor of which a special performance will be held tonight at Yellow Submarine. Starts at 10 p.m. 13 Harechavim St. Call (02) 656-6611.

Catch the old timer with new tricks: on Friday night, Matti Caspi back home and in concert. The program features his greatest hits, as well as songs that are the products of his years abroad. Begins at 10:30 p.m. at Beit Shmuel (02) 620-3455.

And now that the furor around Bat Sheva's walkout on the *Jubilee Bells* has died down, see the group perform *Anaphase* Saturday night. Plays at the International Convention Center at 9:30. Call (03) 527-9955

And Points Beyond

As Tel Aviv steams up with air too wet to breathe, the best weekend entertainment flees the city and, perhaps, so should its residents. Festival bums who leave now can catch the tail end of the Third International Street Theater Festival in Bat Yam, which began yesterday. Out of 22 performers, five hail from abroad for a fiesta of street side drama.

Six of the shows were written specifically for the festival and will be giving premier performances. Call (03) 691-4144 for more information.

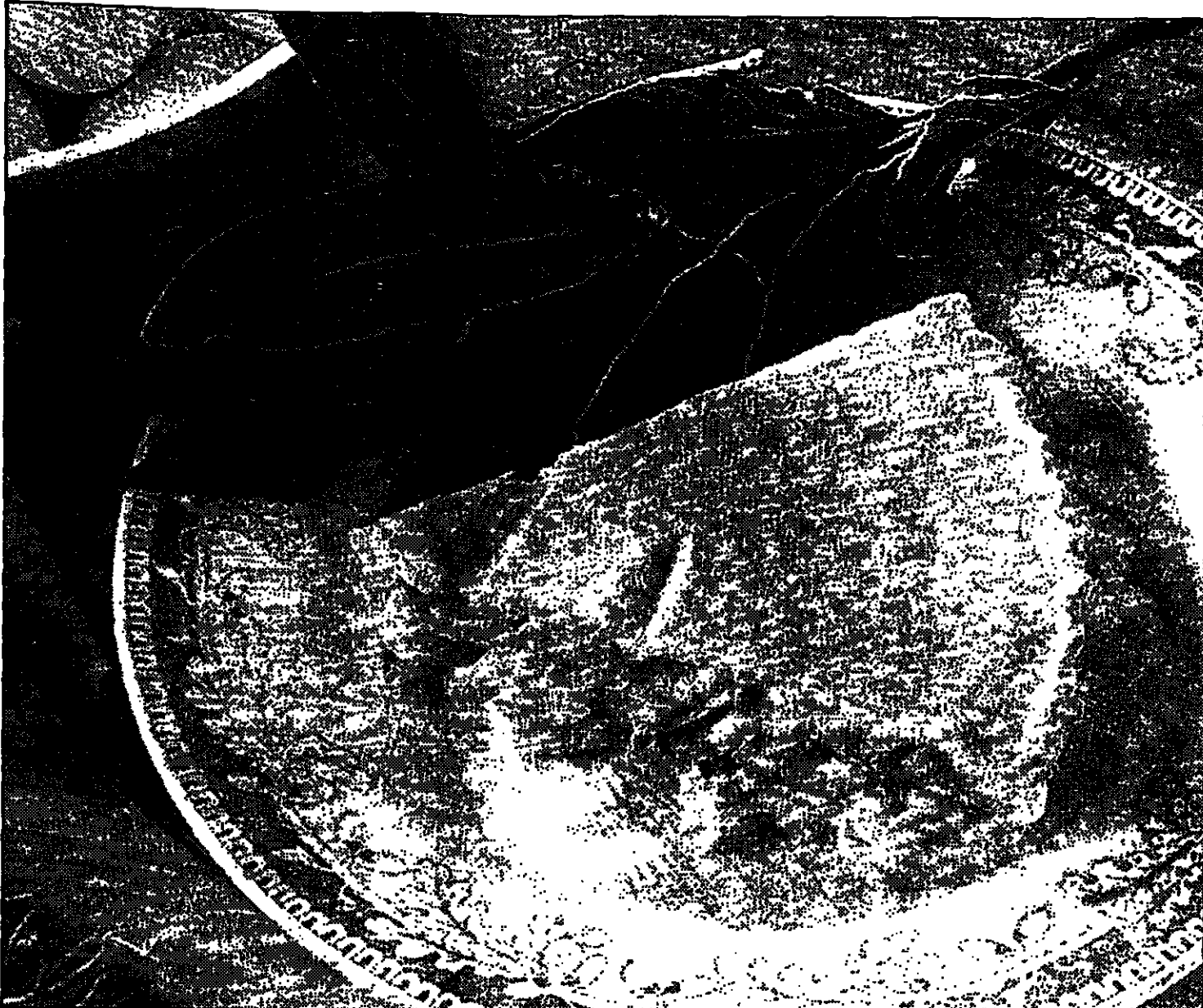
Don't despair if you can't make it to Bat Yam! Head straight up to the north, for a Community Theater Festival in Peki'in (in the Galilee).

Also in its third year, this festival features plays from local and visiting Arab, Jewish and Druse amateur actors, street theater, dance groups, and activities for kids. Add Diwan performances, song and storytelling shows for the perfect weekend activity: the Festival runs from Thursday through Saturday. Call (04) 957-1847 for details.

But the last happening may be a tough competitor to the first two: Haon Holiday Village, on the shores of the Galilee, is the venue for the annual Jacob's Ladder Folk Music festival. Country, folk and blues grace the tranquil setting, creating an ideal family event. Call (06) 696-2231

Beyond the grand events, Ben Artzi is still making rounds. The youngster plays tonight in Netanya at the Muza Club, starting at 10 p.m.

Weekender Food & Drink



Great pretenders

Readers challenged us to "de-meat" their favorite recipes.
Come join us for dinner.

By STEVEN PETUSEVSKY

I'll never forget one of the regular customers in my restaurant asking me to prepare a vegetarian equivalent of his favorite – a fast-food double burger with the special sauce and all the trimmings. This was a tough one, but I always love a good challenge. First, I marinated and grilled two portobello mushrooms and made them into a sandwich. Then I filled the center of the sandwich with sliced tomato, grilled vegetables, onions, pickles and my own special sauce, and put everything inside a sesame-seed bun.

That was nine years ago. That customer is still a regular – but now with a greater sense of well-being and health. When readers asked me to "de-meat" some of their favorite recipes for them, I thought about the conversion of that old double burger and how such a simple change could alter someone's eating habits and health. I hope "gardenizing" these recipes, and adding some of my own, will open the path for many of you who are looking for a full-flavor experience without the meat.

I don't make that claim lightly. The taste of a juicy steak, medium burger, or slice of prime rib can't really be duplicated and we shouldn't pretend otherwise. But what about bringing in other palate sensations to supplant the old cravings with something new and equally as mouth-watering? When prepared correctly and with enthusiasm, portobello mushrooms, pan-seared tofu, or a well-made vegetarian burger could make you forget all about that half-pounder at the drive-through window.

BLACKENED PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM SALAD

In this salad, based on a blackened-steak salad, I've used portobellos in place of the New York strip steak. To keep the protein up, I added white beans.

1/4 cup red wine vinegar
1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
1/4 cup tomato juice
1 Tbsp. olive oil
4 tsp. mustard
1/4 tsp. coarsely ground pepper
4 (120 gr.) portobello mushroom caps (about 13cm. wide)
1 Tbsp. Cajun seasoning for steak
2 tsp. olive oil
cooking spray

16 cups salad greens
1 large tomato, cut into 8 wedges
1/2 cup thinly sliced red onion, separated into rings
450 gr. can cannellini or other white beans, rinsed and drained
4 Tbsp. crumbled blue cheese

Combine first 6 ingredients in a large zip-top plastic bag. Add mushrooms to bag and seal. Marinate 10 minutes, turning occasionally.

Remove mushrooms from bag, reserving marinade. Sprinkle mushrooms with Cajun seasoning. Heat 2 tsp. oil in a large nonstick skillet coated with cooking spray over medium-high heat until hot. Add mushrooms; cook 2 minutes on each side or until very brown. Cool; cut mushrooms diagonally into thin slices.

Arrange 4 cups salad greens on each of 4 plates. Top each with mushroom slices, 2 tomato wedges, and onion rings. Sprinkle each with beans and blue cheese. Drizzle the reserved marinade evenly over salads. (Serves 4.)

ITALIAN VEGETABLE PIE
This is based on an Italian meat pie that was made with half a kilogram of ground beef and a deep-dish pie shell. I used lasagna noodles for the crust and tofu instead of ground beef.

2 tsp. olive oil
1 cup chopped green bell pepper
1 cup chopped onion
1 cup chopped mushrooms
370 gr. firm tofu, drained and crumbled
3 garlic cloves, minced
3 Tbsp. tomato paste
1 tsp. dried Italian seasoning
1 tsp. fennel seeds
1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper
3/4 cups tomato sauce
12 cooked lasagna noodles
cooking spray
1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 190°.

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add the bell pepper, chopped onion, mushrooms, tofu, and garlic; sauté 3 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Stir in tomato paste, Italian seasoning, fennel seeds, crushed red pepper and tomato sauce; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer 10 minutes.

Arrange the noodles spoke-like in the bottom of a 20cm. round baking dish coated with cooking spray. Spread 3 cups tomato mix-

ture over noodles. Fold ends of noodles over tomato mixture, and top with the remaining tomato mixture and cheeses. Bake at 190° for 20 minutes. (Serves 8.)

GARDEN "SLOPPY JOES"
Tempeh is a chewy, rich-flavored soybean cake that comes in various flavors. It can also contain grains such as quinoa, rice or barley. It's great marinated and grilled, or in stews and chilies. Tempeh can be found in health-food stores.

2 tsp. olive oil
1 cup chopped onion
1 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup diced carrot
240 gr. tempeh, crumbled
2 cups canned crushed tomatoes, undrained
1/4 cup water
1/4 cup hot-and-spicy barbecue sauce
2 tsp. chili powder
1/2 tsp. dried oregano
1/2 tsp. pepper
1/4 tsp. salt
8 hamburger buns

Heat oil in a nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add onion, celery, carrot and tempeh and sauté 5 minutes. Stir in tomatoes and next 6 ingredients (tomatoes through salt).

Bring mixture to a boil; cover, reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Uncover and cook an additional 3 minutes or until mixture is slightly thick. Serve on hamburger buns. (Serves 8.)

TEXAS BARBECUE WRAP

1/4 cup barbecue sauce
1 tsp. chili powder
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
1/2 tsp. dried oregano
370 gr. light tofu, drained and sliced lengthwise into 1/2-cm. pieces
2 tsp. olive oil
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 tsp. ground turmeric
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
1/4 cups water
1/4 cup uncooked basmati rice
4 curly leaf lettuce leaves
4 flour tortillas
1 cup shredded Gouda or Emek cheese
1/2 cup plain yogurt
8 slices tomato, cut in half crosswise

Preheat broiler.

Combine the first 4 ingredients in a small bowl. Brush the barbecue sauce mixture over the tofu pieces. Broil the tofu for 4 minutes on each side or until the tofu is bubbly.

Heat olive oil in a medium-sized saucepan over medium-high heat. Add chopped onion, ground turmeric, minced garlic and jalapeno and sauté 1 minute. Add water and rice; bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat and simmer 30 minutes or until rice is tender.

Place 1 lettuce leaf on each tortilla. Divide the broiled tofu slices evenly among the tortillas. Top each with 1/4 cup rice mixture, 1/4 cup shredded cheese, 2 Tbsp. yogurt and 2 tomato slices and roll up. Cut each tortilla diagonally in half. (Serves 4.)

COWBOY-STYLE "MEAT LOAF"

Kidney beans and mashed potatoes are the hearty base to this zesty meatless loaf, which is made flavorful with lots of peppers, barbecue sauce and cilantro.

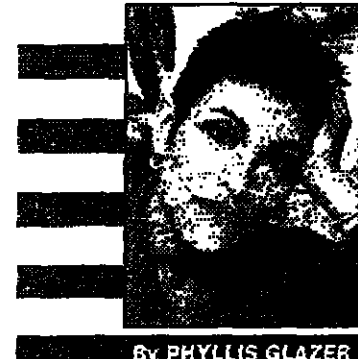
2 tsp. olive oil
1 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup diced green bell pepper
1/2 cup diced red bell pepper
1 1/2 tsp. ground cumin
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped
1/2 cup barbecue sauce, divided
2 cups mashed potatoes
1 cup regular oats
1/4 cup minced fresh cilantro
1/4 cup ketchup
1 Tbsp. mustard
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
450 gr. can kidney beans, drained and mashed
cooking spray
1/4 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 190°.

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion and next 6 ingredients; sauté 3 minutes. Stir in 1/4 cup barbecue sauce, potatoes and the next 7 ingredients (potatoes through beans).

Spoon the potato mixture into a loaf pan coated with cooking spray. Bake at 190° for 30 minutes. Brush 1/4 cup barbecue sauce over loaf, and sprinkle with cheese. Bake an additional 10 minutes or until done. (Serves 6.)

Creators Syndicate, Inc.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

tion to pickles. Superfine Mustard powder is great for mustard lovers.

I'm sorry, but even in the line of duty I didn't try Montreal Chicken Seasoning when I read that it contains sulfites. (Sulfites are preservatives, antioxidants and anti-browning agents.) Meat Tenderizer contains monosodium glutamate and Garlic Pepper contains sulfites, as does Seasoned Pepper. I didn't need them and neither do you. Stick to individual spices and learn to mix and blend them on your own. It will give your food far more integrity. Prices range from NIS 12.95 to NIS 14.95 per container.

It pops (OK)
Remember what it was like to scour the pot in which you made popcorn? Remember how many pots you ruined or blackened in the process? It's true that it's more expensive, but once you get used to using microwave popcorn, it's very difficult to go back to the old method.

Popcorn is a useful item to have around. It's low-calorie (except if you bathe it in butter), kids love it and (unless you buy it otherwise) it contains no additives. There are several different kinds of microwave popcorn available here, to which Elite has just added the imported Chester brand, which is manufactured by PepsiCo. It is OK, but not great, and is too salty. Family-sized boxes of four 100 gr. sachets of Chester popcorn cost NIS 10.50, the price three sachets usually sell for.

Spoiled milk (avoid)
It's bad enough that kids have learned to depend on processed overly sugared cereals for breakfast. Now someone at Tara dairies has invented one of the most awful food products I've seen in years: special milk for corn flakes.

The press release says it was developed by the same people who are proud that they introduced the "milk carton with the plastic cap" to the Israeli market. I think they should be ashamed at having introduced another unnecessary plastic pollutant to

our already polluted country. But profit seems to outweigh conscience, and Tara's treated milk is another example of this.

According to a study ordered by Tara, 60-70 percent of the consumers tested liked the new corn flakes milk better than regular milk both for use with breakfast cereals and to drink. Of course most people (and especially children) prefer sweetened, artificially flavored milk to plain milk, particularly if they don't realize that it means paying extra for sugar and dubious "flavoring and aromatic materials."

When you buy candy at least you know it's candy. Here the consumers are misled to believe that they're consuming something good for them. Milk for corn flakes just ruins a naturally good thing. Avoid it. Better yet – write to the company in protest. NIS 5.10 a liter.

Contest
Tapachips, Doritos, Shush, Ruffles, Chitos, Casino etc. Sound familiar? They're probably an integral part of your children's diet, a part, unlike broccoli, that they never complain about consuming. They don't seem to care when you explain to them that these salty snacks aren't good for their waistline, that too much salt isn't good for their blood pressure, and that these snacks aren't a substitute for real food. Thanks to Elite's new contest, you may start encouraging them to eat them anyway.

Collect the highest number of empty packages of any of Elite's salty snacks and you can win a Mitsubishi Carisma car, valued at NIS 90,000; one of 100 21-inch color TVs, valued at NIS 3,200 each; one of 100 Sony Play Stations, valued at NIS 1,000 each; or one of 200 Discman players, valued at NIS 850 each. Everyone who enters this contest also will automatically be entered into a raffle for 100 free weekend trips in Israel.

To enter, send the empty packages in an envelope or a truck to P.O. Box 522, Sderot, before July 30. For more information call 055-332-552.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

I once tasted a really good mustard sauce that was both hot and sweet. Do you have any idea how to make it?

– Nat Berkowitz, Yavne

From my recipe annals, I've found a recipe that once appeared in *Bon Appetit* (December 1979).

MUSTARD SAUCE

1/2 cup white wine vinegar
1/2 cup dry mustard powder
1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1 egg
1/2 tsp. salt

Place all the ingredients in a blender or processor and mix till smooth. Pour into the top of a double boiler and cook over gently

simmering water, stirring constantly, until thickened, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat and cool. Pour into sterilized jars and cover tightly. Keep refrigerated. (Makes about 1 cup.)

I've been grilling everything for 20 years with much success, but fish skin always sticks to the grill. I've tried coating the grill with oil and/or onion, and the fish with oil, but nothing seems to prevent the fish skin from sticking to the metal grill. Can you help? (I don't want to put the fish in aluminum foil, but directly on the grill.)

– Ze'ev Nesher, Ashkelon

According to Shlomo, of Bix Fish Restaurant in the Tel Aviv marina, fish always has a tendency to stick to the grill. He suggests using a double fish rack, in which you place the fish inside.

Several readers have written to say that they've had trouble accessing the Web sites mentioned in previous columns and to ask about Web sites on nutrition and fitness. The wrong address appeared for

the Eden mineral water. Web site (Phyllis's Tips, March 12). It can be found at <http://www.meyeden.co.il>.

"In Fitness and in Health" (<http://www.phyllis.com>) is a Web site that is just full of information. Find out how to stay physically and mentally fit. This site has it all: fitness tips; an assortment of fitness calculators that can help you determine your recommended weight; how many calories you burn doing a variety of activities; tips on workouts and nutrition; and even a nutrition encyclopedia. The Web site is geared to explain "nutrition for normal people" or how to stay in shape doing everyday activities. Hope you have no trouble finding it and that you find it helpful.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted c/o The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by e-mail: phyllisfood@jpost.co.il

Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.

Wine Cellar

Good news for beer lovers

By NOGA TARNOPOLSKY

Writing for a newspaper whose main audience is English-speaking has certain advantages, such as the heavy responsibility of checking out what beers are available for summer drinkers. There's nothing like a good, cold beer as the temperatures go up.

As devoted beer-drinkers already know, Tuborg and Carlsberg are both being brewed in Israel now, along with Maccabi and Goldstar. These Israeli-Danish hybrids, which have a slightly higher alcohol content than their European namesakes, have had notable success. They even have begun to be exported to Eastern Europe. Both of these beers are good, clean mass-market products and their share of the market justifiably continues to grow.

In addition to its blond beer, or lager, Tuborg produces a non-alcoholic malt which I believe is directed at an adolescent audience. I am far from being an expert on this type of beverage, but to my taste Tuborg Malt is a lot closer to other dark soft drinks and colas than it is to any beer. Its flavor is heavy with honey, molasses and mulling spices.

Both Carlsberg and Tuborg beers have begun a summer promotions right now, including a Tuborg-sponsored darts competition whose local winner will get to compete in Chicago later this summer.

But the really great news for the Israeli consumer is the arrival, finally, of cans of Guinness

Draught Beer. A trip to the south of Ireland a number of years ago was my introduction not only to Guinness itself but to the myths surrounding this legendary Irish stout.

While I was waiting for a bus to Cork, a young physics student took it upon himself to explain the amulet-like powers the Irish associate with Guinness. Believers will tell you, in all seriousness, that Guinness defends men from impotence, spurs healthy growth in young men and women, protects the unborn in their mothers' stomachs, and cures all ailments except for the common cold for which you need a hot toddy.

The young Irish physicist supported his claims by pointing out Guinness's simple and self-confident advertising campaign. Towns and cities were plastered with oversized posters depicting robust, youthful Irish citizens painted in a primitive style reminiscent of 1950s Soviet art. Below each picture, in bold black letters, were the words "Guinness is Good For You." What can possibly be added to that?

Following an announcement a few months ago, cans of Guinness Draught Beer are finally available on supermarket shelves. The cans contain an ingenious mechanism whereby the beer is kept in a vacuum which is released upon opening, thus producing the famous creamy head. It is as close to having a keg at home as most of us ever will get.

I'm not sure if it's good for you, but Guinness may be the most delicious beer on Earth.

Handwritten note in Hebrew: "הידיעה הטובה ביותר היא שיש בירה טובה יותר מ-Guinness" (The best news is that there is a better beer than Guinness).

Taking chocolate lovers for a ride

By RANDY KRAFT

It's a personal tradition. Every time I come here to Hershey, Pennsylvania, I stop for a chocolate milkshake in Hershey's Chocolate World, right outside the entrance to the Hersheypark amusement park.

This is the only place I ever order a chocolate shake.

Anywhere else, it's always vanilla. While I'm here, I also usually step aboard the main attraction at Chocolate World: a ride through a simulated chocolate-making plant. It's not fast, it's not even exceptionally entertaining. And I'm old enough to remember that it just doesn't compare with taking a walking tour through the actual chocolate factory, which it replaced long ago.

Yet this indoor moving chair ride has become like an old friend. It certainly gives you a chance to decompress after traveling. And it's free.

Now Chocolate World, official visitors' center of Hershey Foods Corp., is celebrating its 25th anniversary with a \$3.5 million renovation, most of which was spent on the ride. The attraction is improved, but it's not significantly different than it was before, probably because Hershey learned a bitter lesson with its last renovation 10 years ago.

That renovation was designed to make the tour more fun. It featured sound effects, more music and blasts of air that startled visitors. It even had a star: Chocolate Probe I, a robot, from another world who wanted to learn how to make Hershey's chocolate.

But for those who wanted to learn about chocolate-making, the

robot was an annoying distraction; within just four months it was jettisoned and the ride quietly returned to a more traditional pseudo-factory tour.

Many features of the 1998 factory tour ride are unchanged, but some are new, including models of the front of the chocolate factory and of a dairy farm. Don Papson, general manager of Chocolate World, joined me on one of my rides.

He said the challenge is to present the story about how Hershey's chocolate is made in a way that is interesting to adults and children. He said the fact that more than 45 million people have been on the ride in the last 25 years proves its success.

Yet, while you certainly can't beat the price, the ride may leave visitors feeling vaguely unsatisfied. It's probably too tame for many teenagers. It may not offer enough that appeals to younger children. And anyone seriously interested in learning about chocolate-making might find it too superficial or disjointed.

Like the free candy treats at the end, this tour only gives you appetizers. Despite the renovation, much of the ride seems lifeless. Even Moo Shell, a new animatronic cow, seems kind of lonely all by herself.

I ALWAYS figured the real purpose of the ride was to subtly per-

suade visitors to buy candy and other food and Hershey souvenirs in the many shops that fill the building beyond the ride's exit. Papson, however, said making money has never been the purpose of the free ride.

"The mission of Chocolate World is to give people an educational and entertaining view of how chocolate is made," Papson said. "If we didn't make a penny on it, management would be happy."

But he added that people who go on the ride do spend \$1.50 to \$2 each on food and gifts at Chocolate World, and with more than 2 million visitors each year (2.29 million last year), he said sales are "in the low millions of dollars."

Todd Kohr, a Hershey Foods spokesman, said one of the biggest improvements on the tour is new video footage shot inside the chocolate factory. Some of it was even shot inside chocolate-making machinery. "That makes the ride more educational. You can see more of the actual chocolate-making process."

More has changed than visitors may notice. "It's really a new show, with a new script, new soundtrack, a new look and a new feel to it," said Gene Patrick, producer of the tour show.

The ride's cars have been refurbished (they still could use seat cushions) and the attraction has a new stereo sound system and

more monitors showing the video footage.

A large "Tour Ride" sign now greets visitors inside Chocolate World. Some of the most obvious changes are when you're waiting to get on the ride. As you go up the ramp you enter a jungle-like setting, complete with murals of tropical scenes, plants and the sound of birds. Staffers are dressed like they are on a safari.

The set imitates regions where Hershey gets its cocoa beans (primarily Indonesia and Africa's Ivory Coast). On monitors, you'll see how cocoa beans are grown, harvested and shipped. At the top of the ramp you're in a seaport setting, with a mural of a cargo ship.

You're surrounded by ropes, nets and cargo. Here staffers wear sea captain's caps. Previously, the ride entrance area was just plain walls.

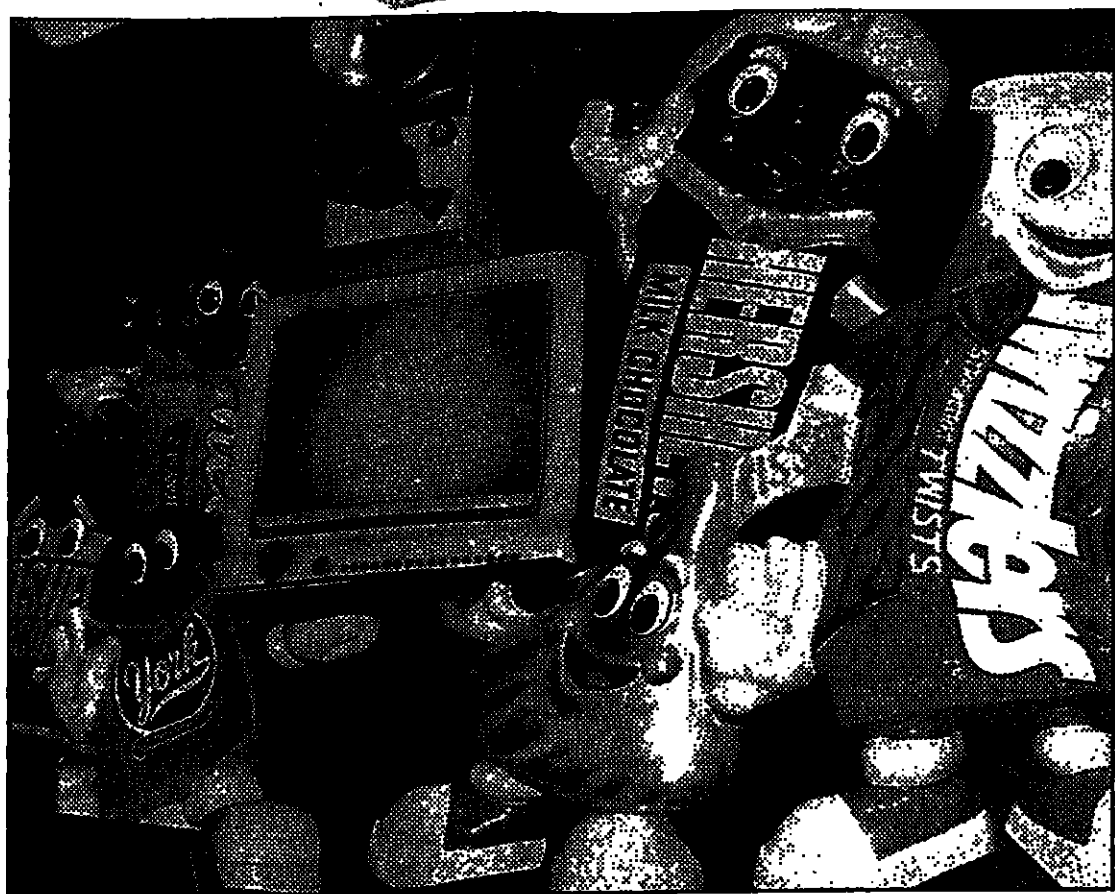
"It's a double-win," Patrick said. "You get the subject matter covered, and it makes the wait more interesting. The experience has gotten longer without extending the wait for the ride."

PATRICK said the ride lasts nine minutes and 34 seconds. On it, you'll learn about chocolate nibs, chocolate crumb and chocolate liquor, which contains no alcohol. You'll also learn Hershey is the world's largest user of almonds - but you won't see any real chocolate; chocolate-colored paint simulates liquid chocolate.

Papson confirmed that the wonderful chocolate smell in sections of the ride is more pronounced now, and that it is now warmer when you pass through the ride's "roaster oven." Near the end of the ride, a photo is taken of passengers



Weekender Travel



Travel Hershey: These little guys surround a camera and a screen at the end of the Chocolate World ride in Hershey, Pennsylvania. (Denise Sanchez/The Allentown Morning Call)

in each car. After you disembark, you can buy a copy for \$9.95.

"Five percent of the people who go through buy a picture," Papson said. I enjoyed the old Hershey advertisements near the end of the ride. But, even with the bubbly song about "the great American chocolate bar," the last part seemed sparse, almost anticlimactic.

The ride is the first of a three-phase Chocolate World upgrade to be completed by 2000. Next win-

ter its retail shops will be renovated, at a cost of about \$1 million.

The following winter, the building's food service area will be renovated, at about the same cost. Hershey claims Chocolate World is the "most popular corporate visitors' center in America." Last August, the ride set a new monthly record: 438,302 visitors. That's more than 14,000 a day.

Company officials hope it will soon set a new daily record of

more than 20,000. Chocolate World, said Patrick, is one of the most well-known and successful tours in the world.

"People who tried to do other things like that modeled them after Chocolate World. We're very proud of that."

(The Allentown Morning Call)

Day Tripper will return next week.

TRAVEL BOOKS

THE BEACHES The History of Paradise on Earth, by Lena Lencek and Gideon Bosker. Viking, \$25.95, hardcover.

For a relaxing beach read, this book is perfect. It tells the story of the beaches near the family's apartment in Trieste, Italy. When the Lenceks moved to Chicago, they vacationed on the Lake Michigan shore in Wisconsin's Door County. Now Lencek drives from her Portland home to Oregon's fog-muffled beaches.

Lencek and Bosker are university professors (of Russian and medicine), and their writing is an energetic fusion of academic pomposity and pop culture poetics. "Jaws-like deterrents to safe sea-bathing drew their inspiration from ancient lore that painted the turbulent depths as misanthropic stew of bellicose, limb-chomping creatures that guarded their domain with the ferocity of a water-based secret service."

Their research goes beyond comprehensive to compulsive. Did you know that a grain of sand is almost indestructible and may be millions of years old? That some sands "sing" or "bark," as if endowed with vocal chords? Did you know that throughout the 18th century, coed nudity was the norm at British bathhouses?

Fun as this information is, the accompanying photographs and line drawings are even more amusing. One early "life-preserving apparatus" looks like it was lifted from TV's *Lost in Space*. For its historic sweep, fresh insight and dazzling weirdness,

this is essential summer reading.

ARCHITECTURE IN FRANCE, 1800-1900, by John and Catherine Harrison. Abrams, \$40, hardcover.

TREASURES OF THE FRENCH RENAISSANCE, Architecture, Sculpture, Paintings, Drawings by Ivan Clouas and Michele Rimbaut-Privat. Harry N. Abrams Inc., \$49.50, hardcover.

NOTRE-DAME DE PARIS, by Alain Erlande-Brandenburg. Harry N. Abrams Inc., \$75, hardcover.

Save money. Give your feet a break. Buy a good bottle of Burgundy, and these three new coffee-table books from Abrams, and you can experience France without venturing to a place where you might miss the Jerry Springer Show. Excellent color photos, fine-line drawings. And all in English!

QUICK TRIPS @ AMERICA'S BEST HISTORIC SITES - 101 Places to Visit the Family, by B.J. Wolfson. Chicago Review Press, \$14.95, paper.

Compared to the Smithsonian Guides, this is Cliff's Notes for the hurried historical-sim collector. Capsule histories and headings such as "Hot Tips" and "The Best Stuff" make this book useful for those who plan to do the bulk of their learning after they arrive. - Bob Sipchen, LA Times

SHALL YOUR BRETHREN GO TO WAR, AND SHALL YE SIT HERE?

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 - Bezeq does not undertake to accept the lowest or any bid, or to place the entire order with one bidder.
 - Bids submitted by fax or telegram will not be considered.

Weekender Leisure

'Scentual' summer

Flair

By Greer Fay Cashman

A fragrance launch is often a lot of visual and verbal hype without much substance. Not so in the case of A*Men, the first fragrance for men under the Thierry Mugler label.

In 1992, when the famous fashion designer created Angel, his initial fragrance, he revived an olfactory opulence that utterly complemented the splendor of his haute couture clothes.

There is a richness and luxury about Angel that evokes images of glory from eras past.

Angel does not have that subtle quality which keeps people guessing what it is. So distinctive is Angel in its intoxicating aroma that anyone who has knowingly come into contact with it once, will never mistake it for another fragrance – despite the chemical differences in the individuals who wear it.

In Israel, it has surpassed all sales expectations, said Noam Weiman, the director of Diplomat Cosmetics, the local importer and distributor of the product.

Weiman gave full credit to Ran Gottfried, proprietor of the April chain of perfumeries for conducting the highly successful advertising and marketing campaign that turned Angel into a best seller here. It has done well not only in Israel, but also in its native France where, according to Frederic Appaire, Mugler's international roving ambassador, it has overtaken the legendary Chanel No. 5.

It's also at the top of the list at Saks Fifth Avenue in New York and at Harrod's in London, said Appaire.

Flushed with the success of Angel, Mugler decided to create something equally sensual, unique and alluring for the male of the species. And

voila, A*Men is now available, which like Angel lists vanilla, chocolate, musk and caramel as its main ingredients. There are also the more masculine scents of leather, roasted coffee and bitumen. Strong woody notes, together with bergamot, helional, lavender, peppermint and aldehydes, combine to emit a completely unique aroma.

There is an aura of sophistication and powerful masculinity, tempered by tenderness and vivacity – a perfect partner for the sensual, sexy and seductive Angel.

Appaire made the contrasts and comparisons between the two fragrances on a sniff by sniff basis, using cardboard arrows which had been liberally sprayed with the various ingredients.

What he didn't say, however, was that A*Men also smells great on women, despite its masculine silver hip flask packaging – which includes a micro-fiber polishing cloth that restores instant sheen to the metal. Available in 30ml and 100ml bottles of Eau de toilette, A*Men sells for NIS 220 and NIS 330 respectively. Refills, which can be easily fitted into the metal containers, sell for NIS 120 and NIS 195.

UNLIKE OTHER fashion companies, which are constantly seeking new designs for their perfume bottles to promote both their brand names and their fragrances, Escada has hit on a clever

solution by simply changing the color of its elegantly sculpted Eau de toilette bottles with their high ridged gold signature stoppers.

For Escada Margaretha Ley fans, the bottles themselves may well become collectables, especially if the fragrances which they contain disappear from the market.

Relatively few perfumes, no matter how well they sell, survive the test of generations. New fads and ever-growing competition reach out to our senses and we often abandon even those fragrances in favor of something new and possibly more exciting – or at least more trendy.

Occasionally we may return to "scentual" status symbols such as Joy by Patou, Chanel No. 5, Guerlain's Mitsouko and Shalimar, Coty L'Aimant and Chypre, Cabochard by Gres and Arpege by Lanvin – most of which have been around for over 70 years.

Escada makes no pretensions about a long shelf life, and in its advertising brochures and leaflets announces that Sunny Frutti, its most recent fragrance, is being released in a limited edition.

What this means in Escada terms is that it was created in tandem with Escada's spring/summer 1998 collection in which the prints and solids reflect the citrus hues of summer. The bottle itself is pistachio green, but the package is illustrated with lemons, mandarins and orange blossoms.

A fruit and flower blend, the fragrance is light and subtle – pleasant, without being aggressively powerful.

Escada has been producing a new perfume each summer since 1993 in line with its fashion collection, and this short-term fragrance marketing technique seems to be working.

The fragrance comes in 30ml, 50ml and 100ml spray bottles priced at NIS 129, NIS 169 and NIS 239.

ALSO LIGHT, with a sweet, fresh bouquet reminiscent of talcum powder is Bvlgari's Eau Fraiche, which in many ways lives up to its name. Composed primarily of Sambac jasmine tea, mimosa, violet, rose, iris, bergamot and orange blossoms, it teases a little like a baller dancer skipping into the wings and suddenly reemerging.

Bvlgari has made such a strong market impact that it's hard to believe that the internationally renowned firm of jewelers and watchmakers, which has been in business for more than a century, released its first fragrance only as recently as 1993.

Its newest Eau de toilette in 30ml, 50ml and 100ml bottles sells for NIS 159, NIS 198 and NIS 278.

Bridge Comeback falls short

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
Neither side vulnerable

North (Rodwell)
♠ KQ9853
♥ 92
♦ A4
♣ 732

West (Cayne)
♠ 10763
♥ 10763
♦ 2
♣ AQJ85

East (Burger)
♠ 1
♥ Q85
♦ KQJ863
♣ 1094

South (Meckstroth)
♠ A42
♥ AKJ4
♦ 10975
♣ K6

Opening lead: ♦2

Sam's Town Hotel & Gambling Hall, in Tunica, Mississippi, June 16, 1998: After 106 boards of the final of the United States Team Trials, the Nickell team (Nick Nickell, Dick Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway) led the Cayne team (James Cayne, Chuck Burger, Mike Passell, Michael Seamon, Larry Cohen and David Berkowitz) by a score of 233 to 199.

Thirty-four imps was a lot to make up in the final 15 deals, but on board number 107, a comeback was in sight when Cayne and Burger defeated a game contract that was made by their teammates in the Closed Room.

Cayne is president of Bear Stearns, a well-known stock investment firm in New York, and his partner, Burger, is a successful lawyer from Detroit, Michigan. Their opponents, Meckstroth and Rodwell, are reputed to be the world's best partnership and play strictly professional bridge.

Nevertheless, Cayne and Burger are the elder and more experienced of the two pairs, having learned their bridge at the tough, high-staked, rubber bridge tables, where every error costs you money, not just pride.

At both tables in play (the hands were duplicated) the declarer in four spades was South. To the uninitiated observer this may seem peculiar, but modern bidding techniques include "transfer bids," in which one player bids the suit under his long suit, so that the other player can declare the con-

tract. In this case, South opened the bidding one no trump and his partner transferred to spades by bidding two spades (he had no option) and his partner jumped to game.

At both tables, the West player led the device of diamonds: in the Closed Room, declarer went up with the ace of diamonds and led a club to his king.

West took the ace and shifted to a trump, but declarer could not be stopped from ruffing one of the dummy's three small clubs in his hand to score 10 tricks (seven spade tricks, the ace-king of hearts, and the ace of diamonds).

In the Open Room, declarer gave the defenders a chance when he ducked the opening diamond lead. Burger (East) won the jack of diamonds and could have returned a diamond for his partner to ruff. But he thought it was too good to be true. From his point of view, West might have started with three diamonds. Also, West might need a club to be played through the South hand.

Burger was right about the latter but, as the cards lay, it was not necessary to lead a club at trick two. Had he given his partner a ruff, West could have exited with a major suit and waited for his two club tricks.

At trick two, Burger shifted to the four of clubs. Declarer played the king, hoping that the ace was on his right. When the king lost to the ace, Cayne made the spectacular return of the five of clubs. East won the trick with the nine! Suddenly he realized that his partner must be void in diamonds (why else would he underlead the queen and jack of clubs?). So Burger returned a diamond at trick four and Cayne ruffed it to set the contract.

Burger's choice of the club four (rather than the 10) was interesting. Cayne and Burger, one of America's longest-standing partnerships, use count cards on defense. They lead low from three cards and high from two. This is why Burger did not return the 10. If he had returned the 10 of clubs, his partner would have played him for a doubleton and would have tried to cash three high clubs, allowing the declarer to make the contract.

This good result put the score of the match at 233 to 209. The Cayne team came close, but failed at the wire by 12 imps (losing 259 to 247).

Readers may contact Matthew Granovetter by e-mail at gran@netvision.net.il

Chess The chaos of having two world champs

By NIGEL SHORT

Although we have not yet sunk to the depths of boxing, having two world chess champions is quite confusing enough (even without their names being so absurdly similar). For this I must accept a substantial degree of culpability for, had I not suggested to Garry Kasparov in 1993 that we form a breakaway organization (the PCA), the situation would never have arisen.

Five years on, the PCA is as moribund as a Monty Python parrot and Garry has a new organization (which name I cannot remember off hand, but nor is it important) as a vehicle for hosting a defense of his title.

Unfortunately his antagonist this autumn – the winner of a one-off match between Vladimir Kramnik and Alexei Shirov – will have none of the legitimacy of his previous challengers. Vishy Anand and myself, who successfully battled our way past the finest in the world in order to face him.

But even if it is somewhat lacking in credibility, the match should be extremely interesting (particularly if he meets Kramnik).

Anatoly Karpov has a different problem. There are half a dozen players better than him these days, but he is backed by FIDE which, in the eyes of many, gives him a veneer of respectability. He may be an emperor without clothes, but even naked emperors are still emperors. And Karpov isn't one to blush.

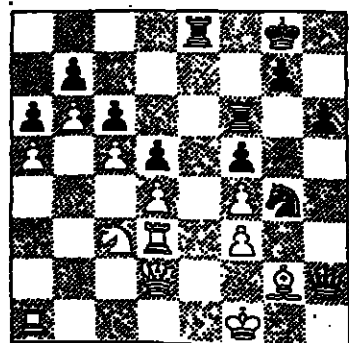
So do I feel guilty for all this chaos? Not really. It is hard to imagine the top players having such excellent opportunities to make money had things remained as they were. Why else should president Ilumjinov have poured millions of dollars into the world championship, if not for the necessity of securing widespread support?

The lasting legacy of these tur-

bulent years is, however, likely to be a massive erosion of the privileges of the champion. This is long overdue. No more will the incumbent be grossly pampered; he will, like everyone else, have to prove his mettle annually.

So when will the championships be united? Probably not until Kasparov is defeated in match-play. It may come sooner than you think – Kramnik has awesome powers. But first he will have to get past Shirov which will not be easy, as this example from 1994 shows.

Black: (Shirov) to play



White: (Kramnik)

A piece down for insufficient compensation, Alexei plays 1...Re4!! 2.Nxd5!! Ingenious but the mundane 2.Ne2! Rg6 3.fg4 Rxd4 4.Ng1 Rxf4 5.Nf3 would have brought the excitement to a halt. 2...cxd5 3.c6 Rxf4 4.cxb7 Re4!! Back again! 5.Rc1 Kh7! 6.b8Q!! 6.Rc8 Qg3 7.b8Q Nh2+ 8.Kg1 Re1+ 9.Qxcl Qxcl+ 10.Kxb2 Qh4+ is only a draw! 6...Qxb8 7.fg4 Qh2! 8.R3 Rxd4 9.b7! Rf6 10.Rc2 10.b8Q! Qxb8 11.Rf2 gave chances of survival. 10...Rxd2 11.Qxg2 Rxd2 12.Rxd2 Qh1+ 13.Kf2 Qb1 and Vladimir, unexpectedly, had to resign as the two rooks offer no resistance to the queen here.

© Telegraph Group

A literary snapshot of Jewish photography

On Camera

By David Brauner

George Gilbert is a photographer, historian and Jew, or combined into a single phrase, a Jewish photo historian. Gilbert is also very a frustrated man.

On Camera came across Gilbert's latest book, intriguingly titled *The Illustrated Worldwide Who's Who of Jews in Photography*, in the extensive photo library of Danny Kyrman, a Jerusalem collector of photography.

Thumbing through the pages, this writer eyed names like Margaret Bourke-White (she was Jewish?), Adolf Hitler (what did he have to do with Jews in photography?) and Vivienne Silver (an Israeli photo historian – hey, Gilbert doesn't miss anybody who's anybody in photography).

"I must have this book," I drooled, and wrote to Gilbert. I got more than I bargained for, but less than I asked for.

Gilbert, now 76 and "actively" retired, has devoted his entire life to photography. Raised in Brooklyn, he began his career as a young boy when his mother gave him a folding camera. "I put a long strap around it and carried it around both my shoulders," he recalls.

In 1940, he left Brooklyn College to work for \$10 a week as an apprentice in a commercial photography studio. From there, he met Walter Rosenblum (the US Army's most decorated combat photographer of World War II) who introduced him to New York's Photo League and its unique school for socially concerned documentary photographers, led by the inspiring teacher Sid Grossman.

In World War II Gilbert served in

the US Army, first teaching photography to pilots, then secretly photographing the Pacific "stepping stone" islands leading to Japan. The atrocities of the Holocaust jolted him back to his Jewish roots.

Discharged in 1946, he returned to photographing New York street life. Many of these images are seen in museum collections, including New York's renowned Metropolitan Museum of Art.

To earn a living he tutored at the Photo League and Germain School. Eventually, he found his full-time niche in the field of advertising as a photo specialist.

On the side, Gilbert began his writing career in 1947 with articles in *Popular Photography* and *US Camera*. Since then he has had more than 700 articles appear, under five pseudonyms, in photo trade magazines, antique journals and newspapers. He is also the author of 15 books on various aspects of photography, including *Child Photography Made Easy* (1954), *Collecting Photographica* (1976), *Photography: The Early Years* (1980) and *The Complete Photography Careers Handbook* (1982).

He was founding president of the American Photographic Historical Society in 1970 and is currently editor of its publication *Photographica*. He served as an adjunct professor, teaching the History of Photography at the University of West Connecticut in the 1980s.

Gilbert was also approached by a Japanese company to suggest a

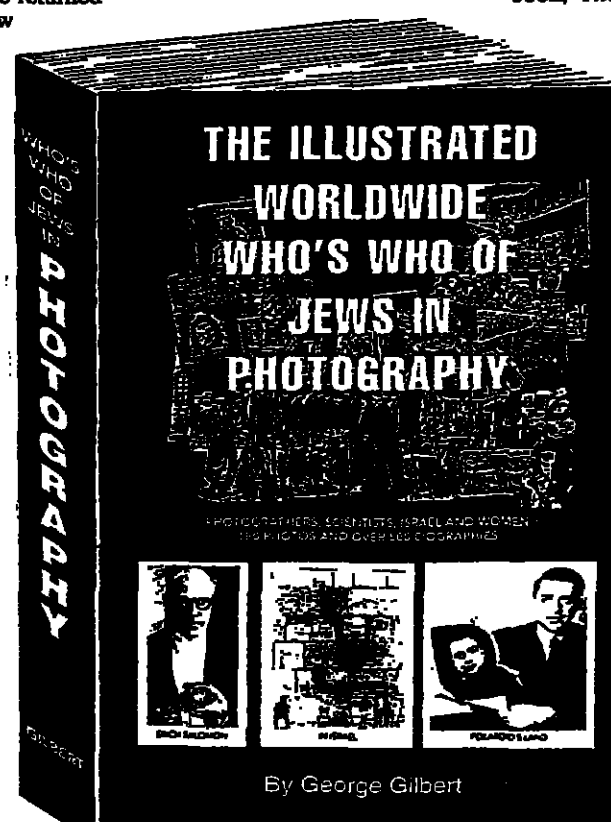
name for their line of cameras. He came up with Pentaflex, a name later changed to Pentax which is, of course, one of the world's leading camera manufacturers.

Jewish American daguerreotypist.

Over the next five years, Gilbert researched the lives of 550 Jews connected with photography around the world, beginning from the 14th century. The resulting book, *The Illustrated Worldwide Who's Who of Jews in Photography*, is divided into 11 chapters including one on "Jewish Women in Photography" and another on "Photography in the Holy Land." He collected hundreds of pictures, which he pared down to 180 for his text.

In private correspondence, the author acknowledges, "This book had the generous support of Tim Gidal (who died [October 1996] before it came off the press)." Gidal, a renowned photo historian living in Jerusalem, wrote a pioneering monograph "Jews in Photography," which appeared in the 1987 Leo Baeck Institute Year Book, No. 32. Gilbert also pays tribute to the late Jewish historian of Victorian photography, Helmut Gernstein, calling him the "book's godfather."

So why the frustration? Gilbert writes, "My agent of 20 years refused to try to sell this title. No US publisher (commercial, university, Jewish, historical) would publish it, stating that there would be no market for this work. Steimatzky in Israel refused to handle it. The world's largest photo-only book shop



By George Gilbert

Unable to find a publisher, Gilbert was forced to self-publish his 352-page paperback; within eight months, all 1,000 copies sold out.

GILBERT'S interest in the Jewish contribution to the evolution, science and art of photography was sparked when New York's Yeshiva University Museum consulted him in connection with an exhibition honoring Solomon Nunes Carvalho (1815-97), the first

years refused to try to sell this title. No US publisher (commercial, university, Jewish, historical) would publish it, stating that there would be no market for this work. Steimatzky in Israel refused to handle it. The world's largest photo-only book shop



Photo historian George Gilbert: The atrocities of the Holocaust jolted him back to his Jewish roots. (Repr: David Brauner)

would not stock the book as it had no sales potential... etc."

Unable to find a publisher, Gilbert self-published 1,000 copies of the 352-page paperback in 1997. Within eight months all copies were sold out.

"I get pleas for copies I cannot provide," writes Gilbert, who is not prepared to handle "all the sales details" from home. A revised and improved second edition has been completed, but there is still no publisher.

Later this month, On Camera will review some of the highlights of Gilbert's Jewish Hall of Fame in photography.

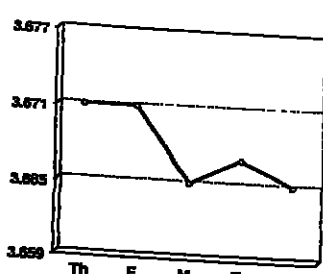
Your photography questions and comments are welcome. Contact David Brauner, e-mail: morrir@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line) or fax 02-563-7792 or do Photo Archives, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.

ספרים וציורים

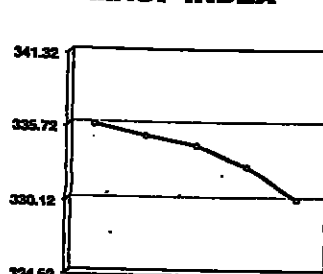
MARKETS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

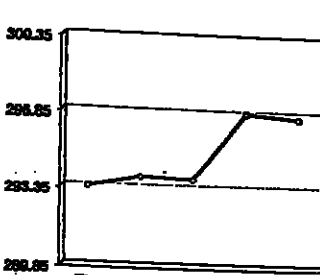


MAOF INDEX



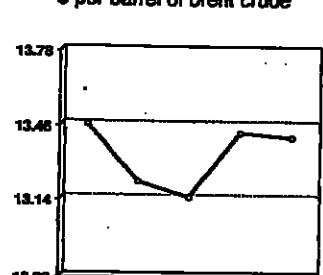
GOLD

\$ per ounce

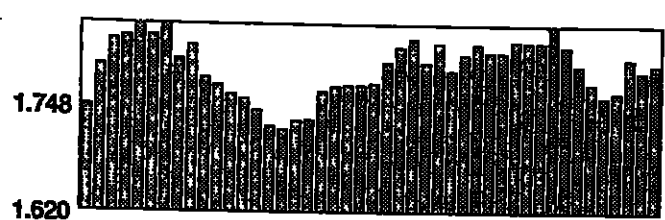


OIL

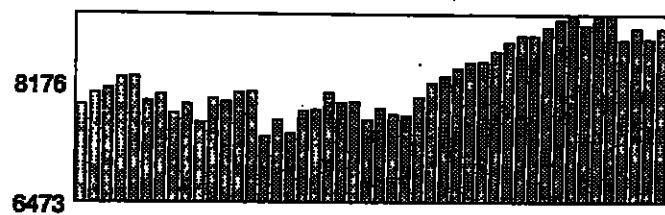
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



Geotek founder steps down

Yaron Eitan, CEO of Geotek Communications, announced his resignation yesterday. The departure of Geotek's founder comes only one day after the specialized mobile-radio operator asked for Chapter 11 protection against its creditors. Two other senior executives, Michael McCoy, executive vice president and chief operating officer, and Dr. George Calhoun, senior vice president of strategic marketing, will also leave the company. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Teva gets FDA approval for Naproxen

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries yesterday announced that it had received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to manufacture and market Naproxen delayed release anti-inflammatory tablets. In addition, Israel's largest drug maker said it completed the acquisition of Dutch OPG's Pharmachemie Group, OPG's production and marketing organization for generic drugs. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

BDI: Decline in bounced checks

The number of bounced checks in the economy declined by 3 percent in the first half of the year, the first drop in several years, due to the slowdown in the economy, Business Data Israel said yesterday. According to BDI, some 20,000 checks are bounced by the business and private sector every day, with the average amount of a check in the business sector some NIS 13,700. About 75% of returned checks are in the private sector. The highest number of bad checks by business is in the northern area, 43% of the total, with the Tel Aviv area at 28%, and the lowest level in Jerusalem, with 8%. *Nina Gilbert*

Flower exports up 3%

Flower exports rose by 3 percent since the beginning of the season last October, and totaled 1.21 billion flowers, according to Flower Board head Ya'akov Siron. Some 77% of flower exports from Israel are via the Holland bourse, with the main buyers Germany, England, France and the US. The largest exports are of roses. *Nina Gilbert*

Global Group plans local expansion

By NINA GILBERT

The Global Group, a Canadian-based office furniture concern, plans to establish a modern factory outside Haifa at an initial investment of \$10 million, group chairman and owner Saul Feldberg said yesterday. "The company plans to double production here by moving to a new complex, with the boost in exports aimed for the European market," Feldberg said. The company plans to set up the plant in a national priority A zone to benefit from government capital investment aid. At present, the concern's Tekelion

subsidiary has its factories in the Haifa Bay area and its showroom and management in Tel Aviv. Some 75 percent of the local production is exported to Europe, and the Haifa factories supply all the company's office modular systems to Europe. The company's workforce here is some 400, and Feldberg said the expansion plan will bring the number to 1,000. A Holocaust survivor who emigrated here as a teenager and then moved to Canada, Feldberg entered into operations here a decade ago as part of a joint venture and last year brought the facilities here under full ownership.

Davidson cancels deal with Tshuva as Gaon assumes Delek chairmanship

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Contractor Yitzhak Tshuva announced yesterday that an agreement to sell a 44-percent stake in Delek, the Israel Fuel Corp., to US investor William Davidson has been canceled.

At a press conference in Tel Aviv, Tshuva declined to explain the reasons for the failure to complete the deal, saying that as a member of the board of directors he is not allowed to discuss the matter.

Tshuva also announced yesterday that Benny Gaon, the outgoing CEO of Koor Industries, will be appointed as Delek's chairman.

While Davidson's objection to Gaon's appointment and salary terms reportedly raised tensions between the two, Tshuva yesterday said he and Davidson "remain good friends" and will continue doing business in the future.

Sources close to Tshuva said the Netanyahu-based real estate entrepreneur was invited to meet Davidson again next week in New York, although no new deal is expected.

Apparently, the two failed to reach an agreement concerning

Gaon's role, leading to the decision to cancel the deal. Tshuva, for his part, insisted that Davidson had no objection to Gaon's appointment or to the terms of the deal.

Last May, Davidson agreed to purchase half of Tshuva's holdings in Israel's second largest petroleum company for \$177 million. The price was substantially higher than the price paid by the real estate entrepreneur in March for Delek shares.

At that time, industry sources said Tshuva needed a partner to finance the takeover of the fuel company.

According to Tshuva, Delek will give a \$200m. dividend in the near term, which will help him in financing the deal. The remaining investment will be financed by a 15-year loan granted by Bank Hapoalim, which assisted Tshuva in taking over Delek.

Tshuva added that he is still looking to expand Delek's activities. According to him, several investors have already expressed interest in buying stakes at the fuel company for a price which is similar or even higher than the price offered by Davidson.

He added that Gal Petroleum

Company, a subsidiary of his Tasbluz Investments & Holdings, will be merged with Delek.

Tshuva completed the takeover of Delek last April after agreeing to buy 37.6 percent of the petroleum company from Discount Investments for NIS 580 million.

The transaction came after both sides failed to finalize a previous agreement for the joint management.

The move came a few months after Tshuva took control of 50% of Delek by buying shares from Bank Hapoalim and other shareholders.



Getting down to business

US President Bill Clinton, surrounded by stock traders, takes a seat yesterday at one of the Shanghai Stock Exchange's trading terminals. (AP)

US, Egypt agree on aid cut

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON — Congress is likely to adopt a formula to gradually eliminate economic assistance to Egypt similar to the one that will soon take effect for Israel.

Capitol Hill sources said that conclusion was reached following recent meetings here with an Egyptian delegation led by economics minister Youssef Boutros-Ghali.

House Foreign Operations Subcommittee chairman Sonny Callahan favors the idea, because, a source said, it maintains the "symmetry" in American aid to Israel and Egypt since the Camp David Accords were signed two decades ago.

In their visit here, the Egyptians basically endorsed the proposal that Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman presented to members of Congress in similar meetings last month. If adopted when the foreign aid bill is marked up in another two weeks, Egypt's annual \$800 million in economic aid would be cut \$80 million per year over 10 years, with \$40 million eliminated completely, and \$40 million shifted to military assistance, which now stands at \$1.2 billion annually.

Boutros-Ghali also proposed a second option by which the second \$40 million would go not to the military account, but to expand US-Egypt trade and investment. That would include intensifying efforts at reforming Egypt's economy and discussing creation of a free-trade agreement between Cairo and Washington.

A congressional source called the Egyptian proposals "positive" and said that Callahan has requested that President Bill Clinton indicate whether the administration agrees to the aid plans or prefers a formula that does not preserve the current proportion of American aid to Israel and Egypt.

Central Bank: No need for personal tax report

By DAVID HARRIS

There is no need for the introduction of the Treasury-proposed personal tax report for every citizen, according to a policy paper issued yesterday by Bank of Israel monetary head David Klein.

In the document, which discusses the macroeconomy, Klein also calls on the government to set annual goals for reducing public sector expenditure and suggests there is no need to set yearly gross domestic product (GDP) growth targets.

Rather than merely saying there is no need for personal tax reports, based on earnings at home and abroad, Klein presents an overview of reforms needed in the tax system. His recommendations come just days before Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman presents his proposals for a comprehensive reform to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Klein's proposals include recommendations to:

- Continue the present system of tax reporting, which is based on earnings in Israel. "The obligation to report already exists above a certain income level," writes Klein.
- End the lack of equality in distributing state revenues and in the way revenues are collected, particularly property, financial, and real taxation, including that on labor.
- Widen the current tax brackets, while reducing the overall tax burden and abolishing some exemptions.
- Abolish the limit on national insurance payments.

Klein rejects the notion of a tax on stock exchange earnings or other financial income, based on previous proposals. The problem, he claims, is that any previous attempt to do so did not address overall income and consequently these earnings were unfairly taxed.

The rationale behind these proposals is Klein's concern about the need for the government to cut its expenditure as a percentage of the GDP. He maintains a yearly target should be set to ensure the government reduces the size of the public sector. With this in mind, Klein said there is also a need to take a long, hard look at revenues.

Hapoalim to sell 2.5% Koor share to Claridge

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Bank Hapoalim said yesterday it has reached an agreement with the Claridge Israel group for the sale of a 2.5-percent stake in Koor Industries.

The move is in line with the Antitrust Authority requirement

that Hapoalim, which currently holds 22.6% of Koor will reduce its holdings in Israel's largest holding company to 20% by the end of 1999.

In addition, Claridge, which acquired control of Koor last year, has received first refusal rights if Hapoalim decides to sell the remaining 20% block.

The bank has received a put option allowing it to sell all its excessive holdings in Koor between January 1, 1999 and December 1, 1999. If the bank decides not to exercise the option, Claridge holds a call option to buy the stake between December 2 and December 25.

Once the options are exercised

the price would be based on the average price of Koor's shares on the previous 60 trading days, as long as it is not lower than \$28.5 per ADR or more than \$30. Koor ADR was yesterday traded at \$23.75.

In addition, both sides agreed that if Bank Hapoalim decides to sell all of its holdings in Koor, Claridge will have the right to purchase the shares. Moreover, if a third party approaches Bank Hapoalim asking it to sell its Koor holdings Claridge will have the right to buy.

Under the terms of the agreement, if Claridge decides to sell its 32.5% controlling stake in Koor, it will try to include the bank's stake in the deal.

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Volkswagen, Volvo
in merger talks

By RUPERT SPIEGELBERG

FRANKFURT (Bloomberg) — Volkswagen AG, Europe's largest carmaker, has approached Volvo AB to discuss how they might cooperate, Volvo said, though the Swedish automaker wouldn't confirm a report the talks might lead to a merger.

Both companies declined to characterize Friday's talks between VW Chief Executive Ferdinand Piech and Volvo Chief Executive Leif Johansson at the Swedish company's headquarters. Analysts said the meeting, initiated by Piech, may have been VW's overture to buy Volvo's profitable heavy truck business, third-largest in the world, and perhaps its passenger car unit.

With Volvo, Volkswagen would leapfrog Toyota Motor Corp. to become the world's third-largest automaker, giving it more clout to wring lower prices from suppliers and a bigger range of brands including VW, Audi AG, Rolls-Royce, Lamborghini, Skoda and Seat, to lure sales from variety-minded rental and corporate clients.

"Volkswagen has always wanted to be No. 3 in the world and buying Volvo would help them meet this goal," said Rolf Kautz-Pan, an auto analyst at BHF Bank AG in Frankfurt.

"To be competitive these days on a global scale, an automaker has to be among the top three in the world."

Gothenburg, Sweden-based Volvo, a \$13.7 billion company that makes sedans and station wagons with a reputation for safety and reliability, sold 386,440 cars last year. Volkswagen sold about 4.3 million cars last year. Its

Audi AG division sells cars for slightly less than comparable Volvo sedans, which fetch \$20,000 to \$35,000 each.

Volkswagen shares rose 75.65 marks, or 4.4 percent, to 1,816 (\$1,000.19) in Frankfurt. Volvo shares soared as much as 20.0 kroner, or 8.5 percent, to 257.5 (\$30.30) in Stockholm. Volvo has lagged other automakers as it focused on selling more than 40 billion kronor in assets since 1994, when Swedish shareholder opposition scuttled its planned merger with France's Renault SA.

To be sure, Volvo's Johansson may resist any attempt to be acquired by the German automaker, which in the past month has spent an estimated \$829 million to buy Roll-Royce Motor Cars and Lamborghini SpA. VW also isn't ruling out cooperation with Scania AB and France's Renault SA about a truck venture. It's also negotiating to buy Italian sports car brand Bugatti. Volvo is Europe's seventh-largest domestic automaker.

Volvo spokesman Mats Edenberg declined to comment on a report that, citing people familiar with the situation, said last week's meeting was to discuss a broad alliance that could lead to a merger. VW also declined to comment on the report.

Based on its share price, Volvo is worth 110 billion Swedish kronor (\$13.7b.). Credit Lyonnais Securities analyst Simon Miller said a VW purchase of Volvo would "cost much, much more. There would be a huge premium involved for control of Volvo. I don't think Volkswagen would stand for a merger. It's not their style. They want control."

Analysts said Volkswagen's

main goal in talking to Volvo is to acquire its heavy truck division. Volvo is the third-largest maker of heavy trucks in the world, delivering 68

SPORTS

in brief

Haifa bowlers win national mixed pairs crown

The 12th annual national mixed pairs competition was concluded on Tuesday at the Netanya Club.

In a game of little excitement the Haifa pair of Haim Shefer and Miriam Pappenhimer recorded a first-time win for their club when they beat Netanya's Harry Katz and Sheila Malin 26-12. Haifa collected a six at the third end to lead 9-2 and never allowed their opponents to narrow the gap, mainly due to the more accurate bowling of Shefer an Israel international.

The occasion was used to bid farewell to Israel's men's team of Cecil Bransky, Jeff Rabkin, Haim Shefer, Roy Jennings, Assaf Iron and Yair Bekier, who are playing a series of Test matches against Wales and England.

Norman Spiro

Walter Smith rejects Sheff. Wed. for Everton job

LIVERPOOL (AP) - Walter Smith signed a three-year deal to manage English Premier League team Everton yesterday - the day he was expected to agree to terms with a rival team.

The former Rangers boss replaces Howard Kendall at Goodison Park and will take Archie Knox, his assistant at Ibrox, with him. Smith was on the brink of signing with Sheffield Wednesday but pulled out of the deal in favor of the job at Everton.

He is Everton's fourth manager in four years, following in the footsteps of Mike Walker, Joe Royle and Kendall.

Comatose French policeman improving

LILLE, France (AP) - A French policeman in a coma since being attacked by German soccer hooligans after a June 17 World Cup match is showing signs of improvement, doctors said Tuesday.

Doctors treating Daniel Nivel, 44, said he was reacting to stimulation. They said there were signs he was gradually coming out of the coma, although they stressed his condition was still critical.

Beer sponsor pulls out of Commonwealth Games

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) - Beer maker Carlsberg said yesterday it was stripping its advertisements off buses and taxis after the company was asked to cancel its sponsorship for the Commonwealth Games.

The Malaysian government asked the Danish company last week to terminate its contract with Sukom, the official organizing committee of the games that start September 11. The government said the advertisements for liquor were not allowed in the mainly Moslem country. Carlsberg, one of the main sponsors for the games, had contributed \$1.3 million to Sukom and spent \$750,000 on promotion.

NBA player lockout is on

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The National Basketball Association officially began a lockout of its players at midnight (EDT) yesterday, which the league said would continue until a new collective bargaining agreement is reached, even if it means losing games in the 1998-99 season.

Under terms of the lockout, players will not be paid and teams will not be permitted to negotiate with, sign or trade any players, delaying indefinitely attempts to deal with athletes who became free agents on July 1.

Team facilities will be closed and NBA clubs will not conduct any summer camps, exhibitions, practices, workouts, coaching sessions or team meetings.

At issue is economics and how to divide up the vast revenues generated by the NBA. "We want our fair share," New York Knicks center and players' association president Patrick Ewing said on Tuesday. "They're the one that's locking us out, so we just have to stay strong and fight for what we believe in."

NBA owners voted 27-2 in March to reopen negotiations, voiding the remaining three years of a six-year collective bargaining agreement. Owners had the right to do so if player salaries climbed above 51.8 percent of basketball-related income (BRI). The NBA claims players received about \$1 billion in salary and benefits last season - more than 57 percent of league revenues.

"We can't afford to play the season under the current system," NBA Commissioner David Stern said on Monday. "It's not an economic system that works. That's just the reality."

The NBA also staged a lockout prior to the 1995-96 season, delaying free agent signings and

summer camps. But unlike Major League Baseball, the National Hockey League and the National Football League, the NBA has never lost a regular season game to a labor dispute.

Billy Hunter, executive director of the NBA Players Association, on Tuesday called the lockout decision "regrettable" and "extreme."

"The owners elected to cancel because they didn't like the deal. It's a deal that they structured," Hunter said. "Deals like this they have been structuring for the last 30 years. Now they find it unacceptable and not working to their benefit."

"What they are saying to the players is, 'we've been paying you X number of dollars we agreed to. Now, what we want you to do is to agree to something less,'" Hunter continued.

"Until the owners abandon their posture of seeking one-sided concession bargaining and show some willingness to compromise, it is difficult to expect any progress," Hunter said.

The last negotiations were held last week and no new talks have been scheduled. One of the more contentious issues is the so-called "Larry Bird exception" which allows teams to re-sign their own free agents for virtually any amount of money, without the contract counting against the salary cap.

The Players Association is adamantly opposed to any change in the rule. "I liked the Larry Bird exception when it was put in, but now I don't like it as a member of management," joked Indiana coach and former Celtics legend Bird at a Tuesday news conference following his election on Monday to the Basketball Hall of Fame. "It is going to hurt us if it lasts too long," Bird said of the lockout.

East German doctor says he will testify

BERLIN (Reuters) - One of the six defendants accused of causing bodily harm to East German female swimmers by giving them banned substances to improve their performance is prepared to testify, his lawyer said yesterday.

"(Dieter) Binus wants to describe exactly what he had to do with the allocation of the medication," said lawyer Suzanne Kossack, adding that Binus denied the charges.

The 59-year-old sports doctor is standing trial alongside five other East German sports officials on bodily harm charges.

None has testified so far. The six on trial - four swimming coaches and two doctors - are accused of giving 19 female swimmers banned steroids between 1975 and 1989.

If convicted they could face several years in jail. But Binus could expect to

receive a reduced sentence, if found guilty, in return for his testimony, presiding judge Hansgeorg Braeutigam said.

Court officials said Binus was due to give evidence next Monday.

Several female swimmers have testified that they were made to take unidentified pills during their training and suffered side effects such as deeper voices, weight gain and extra bodily hair.

Sampras: Tennis lacks riveting rivalries

WIMBLEDON (AP) - Imagine the scene: a tattooed, trash-talking, body-pierced, rainbow-haired dude accepting the Wimbledon championship trophy on Center Court.

All England Club members would probably choke on their Pinan's, but Pete Sampras says that's what men's tennis needs to boost its sagging popularity: a Dennis Rodman.

Sampras, on course for his fifth Wimbledon title in six years, said the game lacks rivalries, personalities and NBA-type marketing.

Referring to his short-lived rivalry with Andre Agassi a few years ago, he said, "You definitely need Americans playing well to have this game be successful in the States."

Sampras also reflected on the success of the 1970s and early '80s when Bjorn Borg, John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors played each other in numerous Grand Slam semifinals and finals.

"They were all different personalities and they all hated each other," he

said. "It's great theater. And now, it's sad but true. That's what the game needs. It needs a little controversy. It needs a Dennis Rodman type of guy."

"You need a hatred, or whatever you want to call it. You need a rivalry. You need something so that people not following the game might follow the game," Sampras, who has been criticized for "being boring" and not doing enough to generate interest in the game, said it's not his job to make waves.

"I'm obviously worrying about my tennis," he said.

"There's only so much I can do." So don't expect Sampras to start imitating Rodman.

"I'm pretty normal," he said. "Because you play good tennis, everyone thinks there's got to be something a little bit quirky about you, and there really isn't about me. I'm kind of your normal guy that happens to play good tennis, and that's really it. There's not a lot to analyze with me."

ATP Tour announces ranking revolution

LONDON (Reuters) - The current complicated men's tennis rankings are to be scrapped and replaced by a 12-month "race for the world championship," ATP Tour officials announced at Wimbledon yesterday.

The new system, which will start in 2000, is designed to force top players to play in all the grand slam events and "Super 9" tournaments or suffer in the rankings.

Other changes announced include taking the year-ending ATP World Championships away from Hannover and rotating it among cities around the world as well as establishing a fund to buy smaller events when they become available in order to streamline the tour.

Under the present points system, the players' best 14 tournaments

make up their ranking using a "rolling year" with points lost and added each week.

But ATP Tour chief executive officer Mark Miles said: "We have decided to change the rankings system so it is based on a calendar year. People will have to look at it in a different way."

"Instead of looking at the rankings in April and saying a player is number one in the world we will be saying he is in the lead in the race for the championship." Points which will count towards the new ranking system will be those earned from the four grand slam events and the nine biggest tournaments on the circuit. A player will be able to supplement these points with his best five lower tier tournament results.

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CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Anglo-Israeli Platform, which aims at encouraging and supporting young Israeli and British pianists, presents its debut event tomorrow (noon) at the Targ Music Center in Ein Karem, Jerusalem where British pianist Colin Stone plays music by Bach, Debussy and Chopin.

Uri Meir leads his Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba in two choral pieces for the season finale. Mozart's Great (K. 427) mass will be preceded by Swedish composer Lars Erik Larsson's *God in Disguise* based on poems by Hjalmar Gullberg. The Swedish Jönköpings Kammerkor participates as well as several Israeli and international soloists. Saturday, Tuesday and next Thursday in Beersheba; Monday at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem and July 11 at the Tel Aviv Museum. 8:30 p.m. except Saturdays at 9 p.m. and in Jerusalem at 8.

Riga born organist Larisa Bolova and Israeli organist Rina Shechter perform a recital for two organs, playing music by Cherubini, Mozart and others. Saturday 8:30 p.m. at the Dormition Abbey in Jerusalem.

JEWISH MUSIC

HELEN KAYE

Cantors, singers and musicians from all over the US and Canada have come to Jerusalem to celebrate the jubilee in Jewish music. There'll be academic programs of course, but there'll also be concerts in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The first of these is a freebie at the Jerusalem City Hall Plaza in celebration of American Independence Day with a program devoted to (mostly) Jewish American composers whose songs on stage and screen set the world 'a singing. They include Gershwin, Rogers and Hammerstein, Jerome Kern



Director Wes Craven and Neve Campbell chatting about a scene in 'Scream 2.'

and of course, Irving Berlin. The singers will be the cantors. Saturday after the end of Shabbat. (around 9:30 p.m.)

FILM

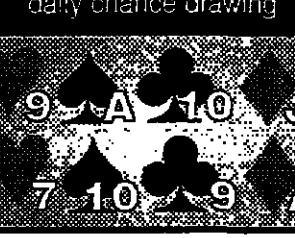
ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ SCREAM 2 - This is the clever, bloody sequel to clever, bloody *Scream*. Both ironic horror movies were written by Kevin Williamson and directed by Wes Craven, and both assume a vast yet shallow pop-cultural sophistication on the part of their hip young audience. As should be clear from this description, the single most frightening element here is not all the slashing and gutting that take place as a matter of course. The cynicism that the film speaks to and promotes in its viewers is what's really scary. That said, the film is shrewd, the script consistently amusing and the suspense sustained to the very end. To protest the movie's knowingness seems a little out of place: it's like going to see a musical and then taking offense at all that singing. (Children under 16 not admitted: ID will be checked)

DRIVE CAREFULLY

WINNING CARDS

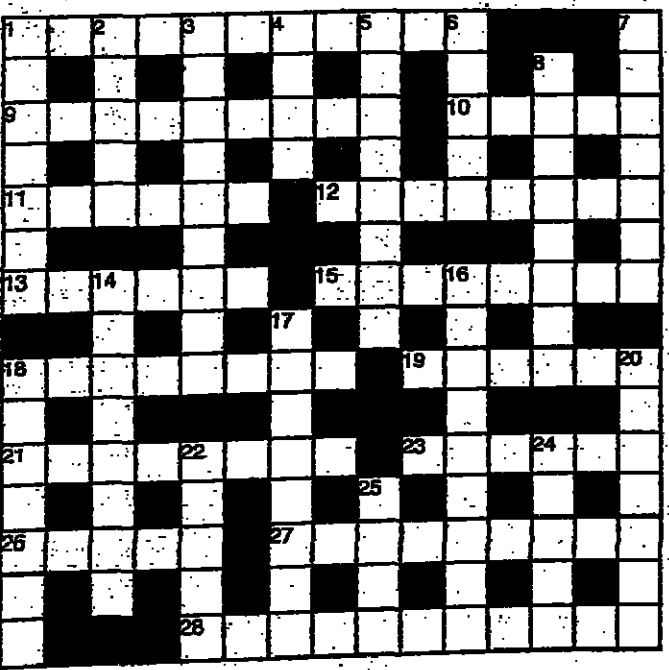
in yesterday's Mital Hapayis daily chance drawing



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Relation found in a semi-religious order? (4-7)
 - 9 Haricot bean, for example, not for a starter (3-6)
 - 10 Form of penicillin? (5)
 - 11 Replacing last of the footlights (6)
 - 12 It passes for accommodation by the club (4-4)
 - 13 Released—or shot (3,3)
 - 15 Test food in court (8)
 - 16 Sheridan's captain bales out when in trouble (8)
 - 19 Put off one's retirement (4,2)
 - 21 Cosmetic combination of sauce and jam? (8)

- DOWN
- 1 A troublesome quantity though not beyond your grasp (7)
 - 2 Slow movement produced no advance (5)
 - 3 Liberal pease (9)
 - 4 The sound of a pig in agreeable surroundings (4)
 - 5 Colourful display of arms (8)
 - 6 Relax the terms of reference (5)
 - 7 A number making a noise in an examination (7)
 - 8 Prevalence of money (8)
 - 14 Arrests drunkard in lift—or drunkards (8)
 - 16 Promise that makes both alter (9)
 - 17 Good man rebuilt a crock—for racing? (5,3)
 - 18 Heavens, what a cast! (3-4)
 - 20 Be nice to a dog and a bird, for example (7)
 - 22 What he does is appropriate (5)
 - 24 Mixed drink five love to imbibe in Russian city (8)
 - 26 It's wrong to raise the pace (4)



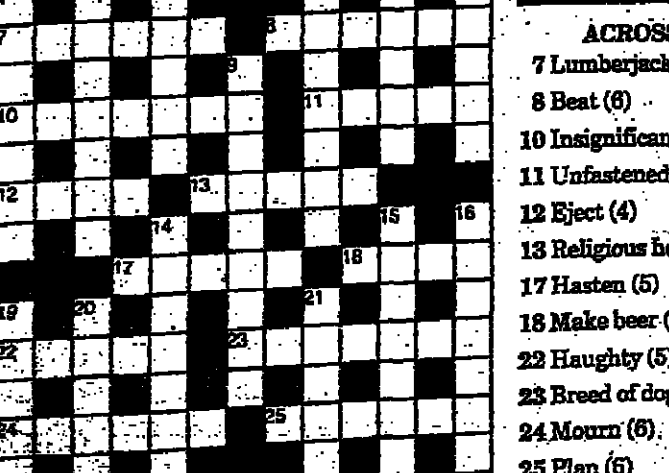
SOLUTIONS

SWAPPING TALENT
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
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Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 German, 4 Hatred, 8 Arson, 9 Onions, 10 Scourge, 11 Spar, 12 Let, 14 Ideas, 18 Iron, 18 Leg, 21 Rich, 23 Inertia, 28 Embrace, 28 Olive, 29 Diego, 28 Defect.

DOWN: 1 Gdanek, 2 Respond, 3 Abnormal, 4 Head, 5 Troop, 6 Desire, 7 Model, 13 Threesome, 16 Outside, 17 Friend, 19 Given, 20 Talent, 22 Cabin, 24 Halo.

QUICK CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 7 Lumberjack (6)
 - 8 Beat (6)
 - 10 Insignificant (7)
 - 11 Unfastened (5)
 - 12 Eject (4)
 - 13 Religious house (5)
 - 17 Hasten (5)
 - 18 Make beer (4)
 - 22 Haughty (5)
 - 23 Breed of dog (7)
 - 24 Mourning (8)
 - 25 Plan (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Euphoria (7)
 - 2 Versus (7)
 - 3 Lukewarm (5)
 - 4 Haven (7)
 - 5 Backless seat (5)
 - 6 Urge forward (5)
 - 9 Complicated (9)
 - 14 Dessert (7)
 - 15 Coach (7)
 - 16 Bestowed (7)
 - 19 Fruit (5)
 - 20 Spacious (5)
 - 21 Pair (5)

TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News Flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Animation
10:10 Hot Shots
10:58 Deepwater Haven
11:00 Time Exposures
11:25 Hot Solenoids
11:50 Papyrus
12:00 Education Time
12:45 Animation
14:30 Star Trek: Deep Space 9
15:15 Voyage through the Solar System

CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Wimbledon Tennis Championships
16:58 News Evening
17:35 News in English
17:40 Wimbledon Tennis Championships
19:00 News

ARABIC PROGRAMS

19:00 News
19:30 Arabic News
19:30 Arabic News
19:30 Arabic News
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HEBREW PROGRAMS

19:30 Arabic News
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ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Dinner
16:00 Summer Studio
16:45 Local Pop
17:00 Melanin
17:10 Melanin
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Page 18

By ORI LEWIS

Amsalem is hoping for brighter fortunes under the guidance of former England coach Terry Venables who will lead the club in its attempt to regain a place in the Premier League next season.

In the top half of the draw,



Williams, the seventh seed, was clearly upset by two close line-calls, on one occasion

converting her fourth match point on a Davenport double-fault.

Davenport, bidding to reach her fourth consecutive grand slam semifinal, was sadly out of sorts and looked lethargic in the dying stages of the match.

Zvereva, who beat Steffi Graf in the third round, reached her first grand slam semifinal since making the final of French Open

"If I carry on like I did today, have a really good chance," the 27-year-old from Minsk added.

Hingis, the top seed, survived her toughest encounter yet after progressing through to the quarter-finals without dropping a set, beating Sanchez Vicario in an entertaining baseline duel.

"It seemed like we were playing on a clay or hard court, not on grass, really lots of running and long rallies," said Hingis.

THE LOOK OF DEFEAT – David Beckham makes his way to the awaiting Concorde plane at Nantes airport yesterday. (Reuters)

Beckham was "very down." The midfielder had indicated his sorrow after the match but had not been able to talk. "He was hurt, he just couldn't talk," Hoddle said. "It was a dart that went in very deep for him."

Beckham, 23, is engaged to Spice Girls pop singer Victoria Adams who was at the match. She watched as her fiancé was sent off in an incident which changed the

"I hope people will stop and think about all the good things and all his good games. I think he is a

briefly gave England the lead against Argentina with a spectacular goal, was clapped on the

Wags among the dozens of waiting journalists said it must have belonged to the player whose

هكذا قال الامم